THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

REGISTRED No. 44.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXVII. NUMBER 43. | CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1880. | Per Annum in Advance. TOWN.....11-8. MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 25TH OCTOBER.

SIR JOHN STRACHEY as President in Council has resolved to stay at Simla, and the other Members of Council and Secretaries, with some portions of their establishments, we believe, will not come down till the beginning of December, when the Viceroy returns to Calcutta. His Excellency we hear was opposed to this arrangement, but perhaps Sir John does not like to face public opinion in Calcutta and take his departure from it, and so he importuned the Viceroy and at last succeeded, so runs the story, in extorting His Excellency's consent to it. Sir John Strachey, it is said, will proceed to Bombay straight from Simla.

WE HEAR that Mr. R. B. Chapman, the Financial Secretary, does not go home with Sir John Strachey. He will stay till the next Budget is submitted. We also hear that he does not resign immediately, but takes furlough.

INFORMATION has been received from Persia, that the Persian Government, owing to the fact, that the harvest and crops are not generally sufficient to supply the internal requirements of the country, has considered it advisable to continue the prohibition imposed in January last, on the export of grain and provisions from all parts of the Kingdom. This interdict extends alike to all the provinces, and applies to all grain whether purchased and stored for the purpose of exportation, previous to the issue of the notice, or not.—*Press Commissioner.*

THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS has issued the following order :

"Adverting to the reduction of establishments recently made in the Survey, Settlement and Public Works Departments, the Government resolve to call the attention of all Heads of Departments to Section 59 of the Civil Pension Code, and under the spirit of that section and its rules, to direct that subordinates removed by reduction, who have been granted compensation, pensions or gratuities, must invariably be re-entertained as suitable vacancies occur in preference to persons not hitherto in Government employ."

We fear this order will be more honored in the breach than in the observance thereof unless its enforcement is strictly looked after by Government. It ought to be adopted by other local Governments.

WE ARE glad to observe that Native Princes are evincing interest in Art education. H. H. the Raja of Palitanna in Kattywar has established an Association in his capital for the encouragement of Arts and Manufactures. At its inaugural meeting the Raja said :

The object of my forming this Society is to consider the best means to promote the welfare of the people of this State by the dissemination of education and the knowledge of arts and manufactures among them. In these days, not to advance with the onward progress of civilization, is to recede. In countries the most civilized new inventions and appliances are daily made to subserve the purposes of man. I must, therefore, regret that the importance of manufacturing industries and commerce, which are the main levers of national wealth and prosperity, are not sufficiently appreciated here. So long as our country is not, by the diffusion of knowledge, able to produce and export many of the articles hitherto unproduced here, and thereby increase the sources of the wealth of the State by commercial intercourse with foreign countries, we shall not be considered to have taken any real step towards our material welfare.

Man is not made simply to provide for his own wants, but to make use of his natural gifts, and to contribute his quota to the general improvement. Idleness has been the root of all evils, and the bane of national prosperity. I hope, therefore, that my subjects would shake off all idle habits, and betake themselves to industrial and manufacturing pursuits. We have now in our territory some educated gentleman imbued with the knowledge of Western arts and sciences, from whom you may expect considerable assistance in this direction. We have, besides, a fertile soil, and possess many other natural advantages. By our thus meeting together at appointed times, we shall be able to consider what arts and sciences, and manufacturing industries, we may conveniently be able to introduce into our territory. As a proof of my deep interest in this movement, pecuniary assistance will be given for this purpose to those who require it through the Durbari firm.

It is really very gratifying to see Native Princes cherish and express such noble sentiments.

IS A Municipal officer "a public servant"? A manager of the establishment of the Guntoor Municipal Commission was charged with attempting to obtain a gratification as a reward for showing favor in the exercise of his official functions, an offence punishable under Section 61 of the I. P. C. The District Magistrate being of opinion that a Municipal Manager was a public servant, awarded a fine of Rupees 51. The Sessions Judge reversed the conviction on the ground that it was not shown that it was the duty of the accused to perform any of the duties which would constitute him a public servant under Section 21, Clause 10, of the Penal Code, and further that even if the duties which the Municipal Commissioners might direct him to perform included those enumerated in Clause 10, he would not be a public servant within the terms of the Section. The Madras High Court reversed the finding, and remanded the case to the Lower Appellate Court to decide upon its merits.

WRITING in *Nature*, Professor S. P. Thompson thus explains the principle on which Mr. Bell's photophone—which seems to bear the same relation to the telephone that the heliograph bears to telegraph—is constructed and used :

"You speak to a transmitting instrument which flashes the vibrations along a beam of light to a distant station, where a receiving instrument reconverts the light into audible speech. The transmitter consists of a plane silvered mirror of glass or mica. Against the back of this flexible mirror the speaker's voice is directed; a powerful beam of light is caught by a lens from the sun and directed upon the mirror, so as to be reflected straight to the distant station. This beam of light is thrown by the speaker's voice in corresponding vibrations. At the distant station the beam is received by another mirror, and concentrated upon a simple disc of hard rubber fixed on a diaphragm across the end of hearing tube."

Could anything be more simple ?

TUESDAY, 26TH OCTOBER.

IN REVIEWING the last annual report of the Chota Nagpore Commissioner the Lieutenant-Governor thus gives him a few rudimentary lessons on report-writing :

Mr. Hewitt who submits the report was Commissioner of the Division during the entire period under review. The leading features of the year's history and the general results of the administration would be more readily gathered if the form of the report were slightly altered in future and if the particulars furnished in the various sections of the report for each district separately were prefaced by general remarks summarising the principal facts in respect of the division as a whole and noticing and explaining any marked contrasts between the several districts. Tabular abstracts of the figured statements forming the appendices might also be incorporated with advantage in the body of the report. Confusion is also caused by the mixing up of several subjects together in some sections of the report. Each section should be confined to a single subject. The paragraphs relating to civil justice should for instance be separated from those regarding police and crime and placed under a distinct head and excise, stamps and the license-tax should each be dealt with in a separate section. Due regard should be given to these remarks in the preparation of future reports.

Mr. Hewitt was a trump-card of Sir George Campbell.

THE CONDITION of the ancient landlords of Chota Nagpore it seems is not improving. The Lieutenant-Governor remarks : "The Encumbered Estates Act has rescued many of the ancient indigenous families from ruin, but the general improvidence of the landlord class is causing a gradual transfer of landed property into the hands of speculators. The Lieutenant-Governor fears that, apart from the protection given under the Encumbered Estates Act, the operation of which must, for sound reasons of policy, be restricted to the indigenous families of the province, it is impossible for Government to resort to special measures for saving the landed classes from the consequences of their own extravagance and folly." Quite true.

TEA IS CULTIVATED in the districts of Hazaribag and Lohardagga, but not with much success. There were 29 gardens in 1879, with an area of 1136 acres, yielding 2781bs of tea. The Deputy Commissioner of Lohardagga remarks :

"It is believed that comparative failure has hitherto resulted to a great extent from want of experience in the mode of opening out and treating a garden. With a properly selected site, abundance of suitable manure, and judicious cultivation, the elements can be defied; but a continued supply of cheap labour is indispensable. Complaints, however, are being made that the supply is becoming deficient, that emigration agents are tempting away the hands just as they have learnt their work and are beginning to be useful. Gardens opened out too close to each other compete for local labour and thus raise the rate of wages. If any great extension of the industry takes place tea-planters will have to import labourers from other parts of the district and the additional expense will counterbalance the only advantage they possess at present over gardens in Assam and other tea-districts."

UNDER THE HEAD of "state of public feeling" in the Chota Nagpore Division the Lieutenant-Governor remarks :

There is no public feeling on general subjects among the people of the division; but measures of local interest generally excite discussion. The license-tax is still unpopular, though less so since the minimum income liable to assessment has been raised. The Arms Act has been administered judiciously, licenses being freely granted to persons of good character and no discontent exists in connection with it. In Lohardugga the important and long-pending operations under the Chota Nagpore Tenures Act for the settlement of disputes regarding the Bhuinhari tenures between the landlords and tenants of the Chota Nagpore estate were concluded in the past year. The results will be separately reviewed. It is much to be regretted that the extravagant claims and expectations of the Bhuinhars have prevented the complete success of the operations. From the remarks made by the Deputy Commissioner and Commissioner it would seem that there is still a considerable amount of agitation among the Kol population of Lohardugga in connection with this phase of the land question. The local officers must watch matters closely taking special care that no illegal oppression or exaction is allowed on the part of the jaghirdars or the outsiders who have purchased lands from them. Every legitimate protection and assistance should be afforded to the Bhuinhars and Kol villagers so long as they behave themselves peaceably and reasonably.

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR notes that in Hazaribagh some inconvenience was caused to traders by the short supply of currency notes available during the greater part of the year. In Lohardugga an increased demand for currency notes and a decreased demand for copper coins were, it is stated, the principal features in connection with monetary arrangements during the year. The transfer of the money-order system from the charge of the Treasury to the Post-Office, since the 1st January last, has, as in other divisions, been followed by a large increase in money-order transactions. The Savings Banks have also made some advance in consequence of the new rules raising the rate of interest from $3\frac{3}{4}$ to 4-1-6 per cent, and the limit of deposit from Rs. 500 to Rs. 5,000.

THE LICENSE TAX yielded the under-mentioned um for the whole Chota Nagpore Division during the past year :

	Assessees.	Total assessments. Rs.	Collections. Rs.
Hazaribagh ...	2679	24770	24520
Lohardugga ...	2139	15930	15745
Manbhoom ...	1242	11402	11077
Singbhoom ...	574	5424	5424
Total	6625	57526	56766

We appeal to Lord Ripon to consider whether this odious and irritating tax should be kept on in such a backward province as Chota Nagpore for such a trifling income as half a lakh of rupees.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR makes the following remarks on the conduct of the Zemindars in the Chota Nagpore Division during the past year :

The conduct of the zemindars has on the whole been satisfactory some of them are more liberal and intelligent than others and it is gratifying to see the favourable terms in which mention is made of the Maharanee of Pandra the zemindar of Jheria Wahid Khaja Jan of Lotaki and the Tekait of Bharkatta.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH OCTOBER.

FURTHER particulars have been received from Kashmir regarding the destruction by fire, already announced, of the visitors' church at Sona Murg. The fire had evidently smouldered for at least two days so that it could have been extinguished without difficulty, had any attendants been present. Dewan Anant Ram is now sending out a special officer to investigate the cause of the fire, which will doubtless be found to have been accidental.—*Press Commissioner.*

WE LEARN from a correspondent at Meerut that the depredations of wolves have somewhat increased in that district this year. It is reported that four or five children have been carried away by them and two or three old persons have been seriously injured. The approach of cold weather is a little early this year. The Bengali residents made grand arrangements for the celebration of Durga Puja by subscription.

A CONTEMPORARY says that newspaper property seems to be the most paying of investments in Paris. The *Republique Francaise*, although most expensively conducted, pays 10 per cent. to its shareholders. The *Univers*, the leading Catholic journal, earns an annual dividend of 20 per cent. The *Petite Republique* pays 20 per cent; whilst the *Dix Neuvieme Siecle* produces a profit varying from 58 to 70 per cent. on its capital. The most remarkable financial success is the *Petit Journal* which circulates 600,000 copies daily, and whose shares, originally issued at 250 francs, are not now purchasable under 3,000 francs each.

THE BOMBAY REVIEW says: "In course of Mr. Branson's remarkbly able speech at Godra 'for the defence'—as it must, we presume, be styled—on behalf of Chander Sing, there is one sentence that has far wider application than merely to the circumstances of this unusual trial, and which should be graven on the minds of our executive rulers—"India has unfortunately not much of a "constitution, but it has some; and it behoves every man to see that Government does not under any circumstances attempt to undermine that constitution." Quite so. This case is a fresh proof of the necessily of the establishment of a Court of Appeal for Native Princes advocated by Lord Stanley of Alderley.

WE ASK the *Indian Daily News*, which seems to be angry with our remarks on Mr. Nana Moroji's case, to read the following, which wo reproduce from the above journal:

As Sir James Fergusson is neither a lawyer nor an Under-Secretary, but a politician and man of the world, in the right sense of this latter term, he must see, by this time that the Bombay Government has blundered in its method of dealing with the Nana Moroji case. It is not needful [illegible] us to refer further to the criticisms to that effect with which the local press has teemed during the last fortnight than to cite a searching and thoroughly judicial examination of the Government Resolution by a correspondent of the *Times of India* in its issue of the 21st. By the way, what is this we hear about some demi-semi-official request,—preferred too at third hand—to another Magistrate inviting him to tender his resignation? Is this desired in order to make compulsory resignation less conspicuous? If these things are so, they indicate an old fashion of doing public business.

The *Bombay Review* is edited not by an Indian but by a veteran Anglo-Indian.

TRUBNER'S American, European, and Oriental Literary Record has the following notice of Babu Jogesh Chunder Dutt's translation of Rajataranggini:

Jogeshchunder Dutt has translated the Sanskrit work "Rajtaranggini" by Kahlana Pandita which has been printed at the Stanhope Press, Calcutta. This work embraces the history of the Aryan race inhabiting the region of the Himalaya Mountains from the earliest times to the reign of King Harsha A.D 1101 about one-half of the work of Kahlana Pandita. It is the intention of the translator to complete his translation in two more volumes down to the period of the conquest of the valley by Akbar. Mr. Dutt not having thought it right to alter the original in any way gives such passages as would be considered impure just as they occur and has endeavourred to make as faithful a translation as possible. Prof. H. H. Wilson translated the first six cantos of this work in the "Asiatic Researches," vol. xv.; but it was a sketch drawn from very imperfect texts and contained the alterations and additions which had appeared in the Persian version. The great drawback to this and other such histories which go back to mythological times, is, that they seldom give dates, and when they do they are mostly unreliable, and in many instances can be proved incorrect.

THE PUNA SARVAJANIC SABHAH petitioned the Bombay Government for the extension of the elective system of municipal government to the city of Poona. The Bombay Government has refused to accede to the prayer. The result was hardly unexpected. Perhaps Sir Richard Temple, the author of the elective system in Calcutta, might have lent a favourable ear to the prayer.

A NOTABLE instance of speed in publishing has just occurred in Boston, Mass. Messrs. James R. Osgood & Co. having obtained a copy of the French edition of M. Renan's Lectrues recently delivered in London, by mail one Thursday, Mr. Osgood called on Mrs. Clement, one of the authors of "Artists of the Nineteenth Century," who promised him a translation of the lecture on Marcus Aurelius on Friday morning, and assured him that the rest of the copy would be ready for the printer on the Monday following, which promise was fulfilled when Monday came, and Rand, Avery & Co. had the book printed, stereotyped, folded and ready for the binder on Wednesday. On Thursday, at 5 P. M., the edition was ready for the market, and a book of 169 pages, 16mo, with workmanship that bears no marks of haste, was beginning to go out by mail and express to all parts of the country. It is believed that this is the quickest time in which a book of similar size has ever been translated and manufactured. Three weeks is the time usually taken, and even that is counted rapid work.

THE REV. E. M. WHERRY, M.A., American Missionary at Loodiana, is preparing for publication a comprehensive Commentary on the Koran, including Sale's preliminary discourse, with additional notes and emendations, together with a complete index to the text, preliminary discourse by the editor, and notes.

THURSDAY, 28TH OCTOBER.

UP TO THE 23rd instant the crop reports from all the districts of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa are favorable. All the district officers report that the prospects of the winter rice are excellent. In Backergunge *amun* looks strong and well, but rather backward owing to want of sun, there the cry is for dry weather. In Muzufferpore more rain is wanted in West Sittamurhee; in Sarun more rain would be beneficial in the north-western tracts of the district. In some places the rabi crops sown have been damaged, in others their sowing retarded.

WE HAVE before us the last annual report of the Standard Life Assurance Company. The following figures give the results of its operations for the past year. The number of proposals during the year 1879 was 2336 and the amount proposed for assurance was £1,547,316, 9*s*: 5*d*; the amount of assurances accepted on 1895 policies was £1,634,444:18:2; annual premiums on new policies during the year were £40,984: 11: 7; claims by death during the year, exclusive of Bonus additions £421,592: 3: 5.

THE TRADE in antimony, the demand for which is very great owing to its forming an indispensible ingredient in the manufacture of printing types, is now exclusively in the hands of the English; it is produced entirely in Borneo and Singapur; a place called Luig in Germany yields a small quantity. The monopoly is likely to receive a severe check from the discovery of a rich mine in South California.

ADVICES from Ladakh state that the backwardness of the season is having a bad effect on the crops of many parts of this province. In Taukse and other districts, lying about 12,000 feet in altitude, the autumn has already set in, and the crops have had to be reaped, although still unripe. The loss caused by cutting the grain in an unripe state is estimated at about a third of an average crop. In the Leh District, a certain amount of loss will also be sustained from this cause; but in districts below an altitude of 10500 feet, the grain is already off the ground, and is estimated to be about an average crop. The night frosts began at Leh (11,500 feet) on the 14th September, and no further ripening can be expected.—*Press Commissioner.*

A DEMAND having sprung up in the Punjab for Borax, considerable quantities are being taken down by the Punjabi carriers of the Kulu road. Borax is obtained in large quantities in Rukchu, and is a monopoly of the Kashmir Government. Hitherto, there has been but little sale for it, but this year some 3,000 maunds (pukka) of cleaned, and 1,000 maunds uncleaned, are being sent to Amritsar by the Kulu road. The price received by the Maharaja's Government for cleaned Borax is Rs. 6-6-6 a maund, and for uncleaned 8 annas a maund. A demand has also arisen for Nubra Soda, likewise a State monopoly, for which hitherto there has scarcely been any sale. Up to the present date some Rs. 2,400 worth of Soda have been sold, and considerable quantities are being collected in Nubra in anticipation of a further demand.—*Ditto.*

IT IS stated that Sir Ashley Eden has appointed Babu Ambikachurn Sen, M. A., and Sayad Sakhawat Husain, B. A., to the two scholarships of £200 a year each, recently created by him, to be held at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. The latter gentleman is, we learn, a native of Behar.

FRIDAY, 29TH OCTOBER.

OUR KRISHNAGHUR CORRESPONDENT gives the following account of Babu Ambika Churn Sen, the recipient of one of the new agricultural scholarships of Sir Ashley Eden:

Baboo Ambica Churn is a native of Manickgunj in Dacca and belongs to the progressive school of the Brahma Somaj. He is one of the few graduates of the radical school who have shown examples of moral courage by intermarriage under the Brahma Marriage Act. He studied up to the first Act standard in the Dacca College and latterly in the Presidency College. Soon after passing the M. A. Examination he was appointed, on the recommendation of Mr. Blandford, the then Professor of the College, to be a Lecturer in the Krishnaghur College. It is said that Sir Ashley during his gubernatorial visit to this town in 1877, was so much pleased with him for the satisfactory results of his class examination in Chemistry that he promised to keep him in mind for any future good. Babu Ambica has thus materially benefitted from coming into contact with the Lord of Belvedere and his seclection has given universal satisfaction. He is a young man of unassuming manners and of great promise.

IT IS SAID THAT Mrs. Money, who will succeed to Lady Burdett-Coutts' interest in the London Bank when that lady marries, has been permitted to take the surname of Coutts in addition to and after that of Money. "Money and Coutts" go well together.

THE NOTORIOUS CONVICT Wassudew Bulwant Phadke, who is undergoing his sentence of transportation for life in the jail at Aden, made his escape early on the morning of the 13th instant. It appears he unhinged the doors of his cell, and by means of them scaled the jail wall. He was captured near Lahej at about 1 p.m. same day.

MR. LALMOHUN GHOSE returned from England to Bombay by the last mail. It is rumoured that a public meeting will be held at Bombay in order to present him an address of welcome.

IT IS STATED that the Directors of the Morarji Spinning and Weaving Mill at Bombay have been making arrangements to order out from England a life-size bust of the late Hon. Morarji Goculdas. The bust, when received, will be placed in the mill premises.

IT IS SAID that Bills for the management of Native Religious Endowments will be introduced in the Legislative Councils of Bengal, Madras and Bombay, owing to the alleged fraud and peculation in the management of some of them. A special Act, it is also said, will be passed in the Viceregal Council for the management of the Juggernath Temple at Puri.

SATURDAY, 30TH OCTOBER.

THE NATIVE DRUGGISTS, who sold *Koochla* for *Koorche*, have been convicted by the Magistrate, whose remarks we give below:

While believing, that the defendants being entirely ignorant of the properties of the barks, and utterly reckless of the consequences which might result from the substitution of one bark for another did knowingly sell *Koochila* and *Chattim* for *Koorchi*, I feel equally convinced that they were not cognizant of the properties and poisonous character of the bark *Koochila*. Had they sold *Koochila* with a full knowledge of its deadly properties, their offence would have been of a far more serious nature. The evidence convicts both defendants with the offence.

I convict both of them under Section 276, I. P. C., and sentence them to a fine of Rs. 200 each in default of payment to simple imprisonment for three months' each.

The charge against the doctor is still pending.

THE INDIAN HERALD justly urges travelling as a part of education for Indians. Our contemporary writes:

The most ignorant, stupid, and uneducated, after travelling becomes brighter and sharper and is looked up to by the stay-at-home. Then what must it do for the clever, educated mind, able to take in and appreciate the wonders it beholds and understands? The Bengalees are allowed to be the most intelligent of their race. What makes them so but intercourse with travelled men? Many of their own kith and kin have traversed the ocean, and returned to their Indian homes and taken their place amongst the ranks of the leading men of the day. No more hiding in holes or corners for them; they stand forth as a shining light to their benighted kindred, and their names will be handed down in the annals of the country, when they themselves are long numbered with the dead.

We concur, Travelling not only enlarges the mind but also expands the feeling.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the first number of the *Weekly Herald*. It is neatly got up and replete with interesting matter. The literary execution is also good. If future numbers come up to the standard of the first issue, the *Herald* will be a good addition to the Press of Calcutta.

THE NEW MAHARAJA of Jeypore has gone in strongly for economy. His Highness has abolished several redundant appointments. He also seems to evince a lively interest in the promotion of education.

THE ANGLO-INDIAN has the following:

As the *Pioneer* has not yet contradicted the rumour of Sir A. Eden's early retirement on the best authority, there is every chance of its finally turning out untrue; but considering that the Lieutenant-Governor was seriously ill, and the expectation of his return home was abroad, it is illnatured of the *Hindoo Patriot* to treat it as an idle report started in these columns.

Now that the rumour has been proved to be without foundation, we leave it to the reader to say whether there was "ill-nature" in the inventor of the idle rumour, or in the *Patriot* in spotting him.

THE DEATHS in Calcutta during the three weeks from 9th to 23rd October were 728, at the rate of 210, 239 and 279 each week. The deaths from cholera were 39, which were 3, 14 and 22 respectively; those from fevers were 208, or 55, 67 and 86 each week; from bowel complaints 76, from accidents 18 and the rest from other causes. Infant mortality was at the rate of 55, 60 and 63 every week, and deaths among old men at the rate of 25, 33 and 39. There was a proportional increase in the deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races which in the last three weeks numbered 39.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London October 25.—Lieutenant General Sir Alexander Taylor has been appointed Governor of Cooper's Hill Training College.

26.—More reinforcements are being sent to Ireland. Government intend to prosecute Messrs. Parnell, Kelly, Biggar, Sexton, the two Sullivans the two O'Conners and certain officers of the Land League for conspiracy against Government. It is rumoured that the trial will take place in London. Mr. Parnell, in a speech delivered at Galway said that should such of them who are to be prosecuted, as are members of the House of Commons, be convicted, he would urge the election of other agitators to replace them.

28.—Mr. Walsh, of the Land League, has been arrested and charged with intimidation. Mr. Healy's arrest is made also on the same charge.

Constantinople October 23.—In consequence of the representations of Germany, Austria, and France, the Sultan has ordered the surrender of Dulcigno in five days. Risa Pasha has promised to form a cordon against any possible Albanian invasion of Montenegrin territory. The convention between Turkey and Montenegro has not yet been arranged. Hodo (? Hobart) Pasha has been summoned to Constantinople but he has declined to obey. Rumours are current of a conspiracy to depose

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the Sultan and several arrests have been connected therewith.

23.—The Kurds are renewing their ravages in Persian territory and the Shah's troops are advancing to repel their raids.

26.—Dervish Pasha has been appointed Governor of Albania with power to determine the mode of the surrender of Dulcigno. He takes three Infantry Battalions with him. The Albanians are still obstructive.

29.—A furious gale has swept over the Irish channel and east coast of Ireland, causing great floods and loss of property. Many houses in Dublin have been unroofed.

28.—A messenger from Riza Pascha carrying the proclamation of the surrender of Dulcigno, has been assassinated.

28.—It is reported that the Khurds have taken Urumiyeh and that they are advancing against Tabrez.

MR. W. M. SOUTTAR has come back and resumed charge of the offices of Chairman of the Corporation and Commissioner of Police. This evening he invited the Commissioners and a few of his European friends to an "At Home" just to shake hands with them. It was a pleasant party and every body present seemed to enjoy the company. Mr. Souttar was all attention to his guests.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals: 1. The Rajputana Gazetteer Vol. III. 2. Meteriological Records for September and October 1880. 3. Report on the Administration of the Baroda State for 1878-79. 4. Report on the Dispensaries and Charitable Institutions of the N. W. Provinces and Oudh, for 1879. 5. The Compendium of Criminal Rulings. By Kadernath Ghose B. L. 6. Proceedings of the Bethune Society for 1879-80. 7. Life of the late Prosunnocoomar Tagore C. S. I. (Reprinted from the Oriental Miscellany.) 8. Fifty-Seventh Annual Report of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. 9. Life of Dewan Ramcomul Sen. By Pearychand Mittra. 10. A brief account of the life and character of the late Sir Raja Radhakant Deb Bahadur K. C. S. I. 11. Annual Report of the Standard Life Assurance Company for 1879. 12. An address read at a public meeting of the Social Union on the 15th July 1880. By Abhoyacharan Ghosha. 13. Paricharika—a Bengali monthly for Kartik 1287 B. E. 14. Suerudabukasa or fugitive poems in Bengali. By Chundersakhur Kur.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210 Bow Bazar Street.)

Practical class in Chemistry under Baboo Tara Prasanna Roy, F. C. S. F. I. C., this Afternoon at 5 P. M.

Lecture by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on Thursday, the 4th Inst., at 7½ P.M.
Subject: Circular Polarization.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, the 5th Inst., at 7½ P. M.
Subject : Change of State produced in bodies by Heat.

Lecture by Babu Tarra Prasanna Roy, F. C. S., F. I. C. on Saturday, the 6th Inst., at 4 P. M.
Subject :Compounds of Carbon with Oxygen.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1880.

THE REPORT OF THE RENT-LAW COMMISSION

XIV

We continue our review of the land systems in Europe.

DENMARK.

Danish estates of the old type bear no apparent likeness to the manors of the English Domesday Book. Whereas the Norman and (under other names) the Saxon manor, was divided into (1) demesne and (2) tenemental lands, the Danish "Sœdegaard," or family seat, consists of (1) the "Hovedgaard," or demesne round the mansion, and (2) the "Bondergaard," or portion occupied by small farmers. Attached to the "Hovedgaard" are the "Bondergaard," or peasants' farms. These farms may not exceed 120 acres, and must have a minimum area of from 10 to 15 acres. Every farm is necessarily kept apart from the demesne, and let to a separate tenant on a lease for his own life and that of his widow. This species of tenure is supposed to have been common in Denmark at the date of the issue of the Code of Christian V (in 1683). That Code forbids the "Jorddrot" to throw tenemental farms into the demesne, and the language of later laws is distinctly tantamount to the admission that the peasantry as a class, (not generally, of course, but collectively) have a claim to continue on the soil as long as they comply with certain conditions of tenure fixed not by the landlord but by the State. It is a matter of dispute whether or not the "Fœstetvang," or obligation to lease on two lives, was a positive legal fact enforced by penalties, to the exclusion of other shapes of tenure, before the issue of an Ordinance of the year 1790. However, that may be, the existing law is so jealous of infringements of the "Fæste" principle that when any "Bondergaard" is converted into a freehold, twenty years must elapse from the time of its purchase before it may be let otherwise than on the two lives system, or on the fifty years' tenure. There was in times past much landlord oppression in Denmark, the landlord abused their powers to the utmost. Especially their territorial jurisdiction, which they exercised with atrocious rigour in a kind of Court Baron, where the Judges were often the lords' own footmen and coachmen. But about a hundred years ago a better state of things began. Parallel with the rise of the French Physiocrats there appeared in Denmark a school of Economists headed by Pontoppiden, whose writings opened a way for the land reforms instituted and suggested by foreigners like Reverdil, the Berntofs, Stolberg, and last, though by no means least, the enlightened and unfortunate Struensee. The reforms introduced in the latter part of the last century, were followed by a rapid change for the better in the agrarian condition of Denmark. But relapses occurred, one between 1818 and 1826 so desperate that landed property lost more than half its value. At the same time illiberal regulations were passed. The leave to the landlords to sell farms without loss of fiscal privileges was cancelled. Large numbers of the newly-created freeholders disappeared. In 1835 was inaugurated the "Standerforfating," or Representative Constitution, according to which two consultative Assemblies, one in Jutland, the other in Zealand, were to be regularly convoked. Farmers, both freeholders and leaseholders, got elected to the Assemblies, and the political agitation which followed penetrated downwards. Soon a certain social ferment was remarked amongst the peasantry. The "Bondes," horizon was no longer bounded by corn, cows and horses. He was heard to talk of equal taxation, services, freeholds quit-rents. A newspaper edited by J. A. Hansen began to discuss all manner of agrarian questions. The feudal pretensions and extortions of the landlords were challenged at county meetings, and there were angry debates in the Assemblies. The agitation has not yet ceased.

NETHERLANDS.

The system of land-tenure in the Netherlands is of a double, or rather a threefold kind. There are some lands held by small proprietors, or at all events by farming proprietors; there are others occupied by tenants holding from proprietors but without the concomitant practice of subletting; and there are, again, others in which the tenure is closely allied to English copyhold tenure. There are some districts where one system is far more prevalent than another, and there are other districts where the first system is to be found working side by side with the second in almost equal proportions. The law presumes that a landlord in letting out a farm does so with the object and on the understanding that it will be used and cultivated as such, and holds the tenant bound so to use and cultivate it. Accordingly, should the tenant fail to furnish it with the stock necessary for its cultivation, should he utterly neglect it, injure it, use it for purposes never intended, and generally should he fail to execute the conditions of the lease, and the landlord suffers injury thereby, the latter has the power to annul the lease and claims damages with interest. In case of half or more than half the harvest being destroyed by some unforeseen accident or misfortune, such as hail, frost, blight, inundation, &c., and in case the loss is not compensated for by subsequent good harvests, a proportionate diminution in the rent has to be made by the landlord for that year, provided that no express stipulation to the contrary has been inserted in the lease, Compensation can only be claimed in case the crops were still standing at the time of their destruction. The usual length of tenures varies according to district, but generally it must cover the time required for one full succession or round of crops; thus, in some parts it is the custom to grant three years' leases, in others five years, in others six years, and in others twelve years. The Civil Code forbids a tenant, without permission of the landlord, to sublet or make over his farm to another under penalty of annulling the lease and payment of damages, with interest, and costs; the landlord is not obliged, after the original lease is annulled, to recognize the sub-tenancy. According to law, a tenancy may be created either by parol or by written agreement. When there is no written agreement, the lease is supposed to be for such time as is necessary for the tenant to gather all the crops from his land; thus, the lease of a meadow, orchard, or vineyard is supposed to be for one year; but the lease of a farm under a succession of crops is considered to last till the succession is completed. In case of tenancies, the payment to the proprietor is made in a fixed amount, and this is almost invariably by money. "Deelnebbende Pachters," or tenants who pay rent in proportion to, or share of, produce, are known only in a few parts of the country. The amount of rent is invariably settled when the agreement is made. If this, as occasionally may happen, has been done merely by word of mouth, and no receipt for rent already paid or other proof can be produced, then, by Article 1605 of the Civil Code, the landlord must be believed on his oath, unless the tenant prefer to have the rent estimated by properly qualified persons. The scale of rent is arranged amicably between landlord and tenant before the latter takes possession of the land; the custom of the place, private competition or other similar considerations naturally regulate its amount; but, in case, a landlord cannot by other means come to terms with an incoming tenant, recourse is had to valuation by any competent persons. But, as in such case no lease has yet been signed, or pledge on either side given or taken, it is purely a voluntary proceeding, and offers but little occasion for dispute or the intervention of the law. The landlord has undoubtedly an unlimited power of raising the rent on the termination of the tenant's lease, and of obtaining it provided the tenant consents to take a fresh lease on the new terms, but not otherwise. In case of non-payment of rent or other breach of covenant, including as has been already named, leaving his farm uncultivated or putting it to a use other than that for which it was designed, the landlord, if he suffer any injury thereby, may require the annulling of the lease and obtain compensation for expenses and damages with interest. The form of proceedure by which landlord and tenant enforce their claims does not materially differ from that prescribed by the Code Napoleon. If it is a question of recovery of rent, the landlord may have recourse to a distress on the written authority of a Magistrate. The distress is effected with the aid of an officer of justice, who is empowed to resort to force, should it be necessary. The power of distraining can only be employed with certain limits, which do not materially differ from those observed in English law, the object being to avoid depriving the debtor of the absolute necessities of life, and reducing him to a state of destitution. Farm produce and implements and live stock are liable to be distrained. The effects seized are impounded and placed in charge of an appointed guardian till the day of public sale, which must be properly advertised. The proceeds of the sale are divided amongst the creditors as the law directs. The landlord in virtue of his lease, agreement, or contract has a prior claim to other creditors on the produce and every thing else on the farm, such as cattle, agricultural implements, &c., whether they belong to the tenant or not. The form of procedure by which a landlord has it in his power to evict a refractory tenant whose lease has expired, or been cancelled in consequence of his having refused to pay rent or having otherwise infringed its provisions, is laid down in the 41st Articles of Judicial Organization, and the 53rd and 122nd Articles of the Code of Civil Procedure. The landlord commences by presenting at the Magisterial or Dis-

trict Court a petition for the annulling of the lease on the plea of infraction of its provisions in case it has not already expired. It is at this point that the tenant has an opportunty given him of resisting the action by producing written proofs of existing, renewed, or extended tenancy. If he fails to do so, the Court issues a writ of ejectment specifying the time for its execution. In no case can this be delayed over one month, and, except in rare cases, where the tenant has shown some special claim to indulgence, it is put into immediate execution, very frequently on the day following its issue. Unless specially stipulated in the lease, the law gives the landlord, upon resuming possession, no legal right to the improvements made upon the farm by the tenant. On the contrary, the tenant may, on leaving his farm remove and take with him all that he has erected at his own expense, provided only that no injury be thereby done to the property. Should the landlord forcibly attempt to prevent such removal, the tenant may appeal to the Court, which, after proper enquiry, will authorize the removal, and send police-officers to see that it is effected. The claims of the tenant are not necessarily forfeited by the mere circumstance of his having delivered at the firm. There are no complaints of unfriendly relations between landlords and tenants. Legislative interference has therefore been unnecessary.

THE CALCUTTA REVIEW ON THE NEW RENT BILL.

THE last number of the *Calcutta Review* contains a remarkable article on the new Rent Bill. It is syllogistic throughout, and the writer quotes decisions and minutes, chapter and [illegible] the Permanent [illegible] complex contract, [illegible] may well put different constructions upon it, but it is still essentially a contract. It is also a contract for the benefits of which the majority of the present landholders of Bengal have admittedly paid full value. Nor was it originally a contract without valuable consideration. The landholders of 1793 engaged to discharge regularly the revenue in all seasons, without any reference to drought, inundation, or other calamity of season; and it must be remembered that the revenue at that time represented *ten-elevenths* of their rent-roll. (Regulation I, 1793 Section 7; Regulation II, 1793, Preamble.) They came under another heavy responsibility which lasted down to our own time. The sale-law of the Cornwallis code provided that if the proceeds of the sale of the defaulter's zemindary should prove insufficient to liquidate the arrears of Government revenue, *any other real or personal property* belonging to him was to be attached and sold to make good the deficiency. (Regulation XIV. 1793, Section 44.) This provision was expressly retained in the sale-laws of 1794 and 1799, and it was only in 1868 that it was repealed by an Act of the Bengal Council. (See Regulation III. 1794, Section 14; Regulation VII. 1799, Section 23, Clause 5; Act VII, 1868, B. C. Section 29, and Schedule E.) Last, not least, the claim of the zemindars to a certain percentage upon the rents collected by them was sanctioned by immemorial usage, and that claim had been recognised by the British Government for many years before the Permanent Settlement. It would be idle to say that in this compact between the State and the landholders, there was no valuable consideration originally moving from the promisee to the promisor." The *Reviewer* then proceeds to discuss the rights of zemindars and ryots under the Cornwallis Code. He says: "The preamble to Regulation II of 1793 recites that "the *property in the soil* has been declared to be vested in the landholders and the revenue payable to Government from each estate has been fixed for ever," and goes on to say that "the *property in the soil* was never before formally declared to be vested in the landholders." In numberless places in the Cornwallis Code, the zemindars are styled *proprietors of the soil*, but Messrs. Mackenzie and O'Kinealy contend that nothing particular was meant by the expression, and to prove how illusory this *proprietorship*, this *property in the soil*, was from the first understood to be, Mr. O'Kinealy cites a case decided in 1811 by the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut." After quoting Mr. O'Kinealy the *Reviewer* shews that he is wholly wrong in his statement of the facts of the case and in the inference he has drawn. Then follows a very interesting discussion about "a full point" in Section 52, Regulation VIII, 1793. We now come to the reservation in the Cornwallis Code, under which the Government claims the right to drive a coach and four through the Permanent Settlement Regulations. That reservation was thus expressed in clause I, Section 8, Regulation 1 of 1793:

"It being the duty of the ruling power to protect all classes of people, and more particularly those who from their situation are most helpless, the Governor-General in Council will, whenever he may deem it proper, enact such Regulations as he may think necessary for the protection and welfare of the dependent talookdars, ryots, and other cultivators of the soil: and no zemindar, independent talookdar or other actual proprietor of land shall be entitled on this account to make any objection to the discharge of the fixed assessment which they have respectively agreed to pay."

The *Reviewer* thus comments on the above:

And the Report concludes with the emphatic declaration that all the provisions of the Draft Bill, so far as they propose to benefit the ryots, "fall well within the power expressly reserved by the conditions of the Permanent Settlement."

Now it is to be noted that the power reserved by the Governor-General in Council is expressly reserved on behalf of dependent talookdars and ryots, and as against zemindars who shall not be entitled to make any objection to the discharge of the fixed assessment on account of this power being exercised. There was no similar power reserved on behalf of the ryots as against the *dependent talookdar*. But the provisions of the Draft Bill in favour of the [illegible] *if* they encroach on the [illegible] same manner as the [illegible] proposed legislation is [illegible] the zemindar ought to be [illegible] and any will say that, [illegible] ample to [illegible] there [illegible] But a Court and [illegible] of the [illegible] which [illegible] [illegible] rights of [illegible] Regulation II. of 1793. The [illegible] Regulation, after reciting that the property in the soil has been vested in the landholders, and that it is expedient to erect Courts of Judicature presided over by Judges, "who, from their official situations and the nature of their trusts, shall not only be wholly uninterested in the result of their decisions, but bound to decide impartially between the public and the proprietors of land, and also between the latter and their tenants," concludes with these memorable words:—

"NO POWER WILL THEN EXIST IN THE COUNTRY BY WHICH THE RIGHTS VESTED IN THE LANDLORDS BY THE REGULATIONS CAN BE INFRINGED, OR THE VALUE OF LANDED PROPERTY AFFECTED."

The preamble of Regulation II. of 1793, which, according to Regulation XLI. of the same year, we are to call Section 1 of the first mentioned Regulation, is still law. We do not find that Section 1 of Regulation II. of 1793 is proposed to be repealed by the Draft Bill, but it would certainly conduce to consistency and simplicity, if those words were expunged from the statute-book.

Having shewn what is *not* the meaning of the reservation, the *Reviewer* proceeds to show what it does mean. The *Reviewer* says:

The following passage from the pen of the Right Hon. T. Pemberton Leigh, which contains the quintessence of cart-loads of State-literature, will assist us in the endeavour:—

"Many of the greater zemindars, within their respective zemindaries, were entrusted with rights, *which properly belonged to the Government*. They had authority to collect from the ryots a certain portion of the gross produce of the lands. They, in many cases, imposed tolls, and they increased their income by fees, perquisites, and similar exactions, not wholly unknown to more recent times and more civilzed nations. On the other hand, they were bound to maintain peace and order, and administer justice within their zemindaries and, for that purpose, they had to keep up Courts of civil and criminal Justice, to employ kazees, canoongoes, and tannahdars, or a police force. But while as against the ryots and other inhabitants within their territories, many of these potentates exercised almost regal authority, they were, as against the Government, little more than stewards or administrators. . . . . It was considered by the East India Company that *the first step* towards a better system of Government and the amelioration of the condition of their subjects, would be to convert the zemindars into landowners, and to fix a permanent annual jummah or assessment to the Government, according to the existing value, so as to leave to land proprietors the benefit of all subsequent improvements." *Raja Lelanund Sing* v. *The Bengal Government*, 6 Moore, pp. 108.110.

"The first step" was taken by the East India Company on the 22nd March 1793, when the Governor-General in council notified to the zemindars to the effect following:—We found you stewards and administrators, we have made you landowners; we have fixed the assessment for ever, according to the existing value of landed property, leaving you to enjoy the benefit of all subsequent improvements; but you shall no longer be as kings and potentates over the ryots; the Government permitted you to exercise functions which properly belonged to the Government; the ryots have not fared well under your regime, and their persons and property have not been properly protected; *it being the duty of the ruling power to protect all classes of people, and, more particularly, those who from their situation are most helpless the Governor-General in Council will, whenever he may deem, it proper, enact such Regulations as he may think necessary for the protection and welfare of the dependent talookdars ryots, and other cultivators of the soil;* you shall not be allowed to claim any compensation for the loss of your questionable seignorial jurisdiction, privileges and perquisites *and no zemindar, independent talookdar, or other actual proprietor of land shall be entitled, on this account, to make any objection to the discharge of the fixed assessment which they have respectively agreed to pay.*

The reservation in Article VII, of the Proclamation, which was, on the 1st May 1793, enacted into Clause 1, Section VIII, of Regulation I. of 1793, has been inserted in italics in the above paragraph, and the content shows what we believe it *does* mean. This meaning gives sense to the concluding sentences of the clause, whilst the meaning suggested by the Report is in direct conflict with the emphatic assurance given to the landholders in the preamble of Regulation III. that no power will exist in the country by which the rights vested in them by the Regulations can be infringed, or the value of landed property affected. It would be absurd to suppose that the Governor-General in Council when he declared the zemindars to be proprietors of the soil, in the same breath told them that he kept in reserve a power, to be sprung upon them whenever he chose, by which their proprietary rights or the value of their landed property could be interfered with or affected, and nevertheless gave them distinctly to understand that they should not expect the remission of a single rupee in the assessment which was fixed at ten-elevenths of the then existing value of their zemindaries. It is idle to say that any provision of the Draft Bill, intended for the benefit of the ryot, which imposes upon the zemindar any restriction in the enjoyment of the use and profits of his lands, over and above the restrictions particularly enumerated in Regulation VIII. of 1793, is within the meaning of the reservation.

This is hard logic. We do not see how the Commission can get out of it. The Legislature undoubtedly possesses the power of enacting laws for the protection and welfare of all classes of the subjects of the State, and its obligation to protect the ryots, the most helpless class, from the oppressions of the zemindars, is certainly paramount, but that does not imply that it should deprive the landholders of their vested rights. If the authors of the Permanent Settlement had any such nefarious intention, they would certainly have declared in the very next Regulation that "no power will then exist in the country by which the rights vested in the landholders by the Regulations can be infringed, or the value of landed property affected." The two declarations ought to be read together and they are perfectly reconcilable. It is one thing to protect a class from oppression and another thing to deprive another of vested rights.

We will recur to the subject in our next.

THE REPORT OF THE FAMINE COMMISSION.

III

THE Famine Commissioners recognise the obligation of the State to give relief in time of famine. They write:—"The precise circumstances under which it becomes right and necessary that the resoures of the State should be applied to the relief of want or suffering must differ in different countries, but the general conditions by which the obligation is governed appear to be these: (1), that the calamity shall be one which places it beyond the power of an individual to obtain the requisite relief or efficacious remedy otherwise than with the aid of the State; and (2), that the intervention of the State is likely to produce a practically beneficial result. There can be no doubt that a calamity such as famine, exceptional in its nature and arising from causes wholly beyond human control, which deprives an entire population of its customary food supply and arrests the ordinary employments of the wage-earning classes, is one which in a country such as India wholly transcends individual effort and power of resistance. It accordingly becomes a paramount duty of the State to give all practical assistance to the people in time of famine and to devote also its available resources to this end; and this duty is emphasized by the fact that the Government stands in the place of landlord to the agriculturists, who form the great mass of the population." This is good so far as it goes; but a more emphatic declaration respecting the obligation of the State to give adequate relief in time of famine was needed after the "elaborate and scornful impeachment" of the administration of the Behar famine, which was contained in Mr. Hope's memorable letter of 16th January 1877 to Sir Richard Temple in his capacity of Famine Delegate in Southern India. It will be remembered that the Government of India, on that occasion, laid down the principle that

"while it is the desire of the Government of India that every effort should be made so far as the resources of the State admit for the prevention of deaths from famine, it is essential in the present state of the finances that the most severe economy should be practised." In 1873 every district officer in the famine-stricken tract had been reminded that "he would be held personally responsible that no death occurred from starvation which could have been avoided by any exertion or arrangement on his part or on the part of his subordinates." This noble policy was distinctly condemned and repudiated in 1877, when Lord Lytton, under the guidance of Sir John Strachey, declared that "even for an object of such paramount importance as the preservation of life, it is obvious that there are limits which are imposed upon us by the facts with which we have to deal." Nor was the principle, which had been laid down in 1873, re-affirmed in its entirely in Lord Lytton's minute of 12th August 1877 recorded immediately before his Lordship's departure for Madras and Bombay. The late Viceroy merely said that the "Government of India with the approval of Her Majesty's Government and of the people of India are resolved to avert death from starvation by the employment of all means practically open to the resources of the State and to the exertions of its officers." It is needless to point out that the State in India cannot adequately fulfil its obligation to give relief in time of famine unless it acts upon the relief principles adopted in Behar in 1873-74. But the majority of the Famine Commissioners do not hesitate to say that no former procedure as to famine relief should be altogether regarded as a precedent. They observe:—"We cannot doubt that the measures taken in the famine of 1873-74—though they must be recognized as successful so far as the absence of mortality can be received as a test,—exceeded the necessities of the case, but in default of precise information as to the loss caused by the drought, both taken absolutely and in comparison with the loss on other occasions, it is impossible to estimate the degree in which the adoption of a different set of measures would have produced a different result from that which actually occurred. Regarding the famine of 1876-78, it can scarcely be asserted that the system adopted was altogether satisfactory or efficient; nor is it possible to say precisely in what degree the calamity was susceptible of mitigation." It is some satisfaction to find that even General Richard Strachey and Mr. Charles Elliott dare not assert that the policy adopted in dealing with the famine of 1877-78 in Southern India was altogether successful. But when the majority of Commissioners distinctly tell us that it is not possible for them to point out precisely in what degree the calamity was susceptible of mitigation, we can only say they were not at all qualified for the discharge of the important duty which the Government of India entrusted to them. The fact is that their sympathy is altogether with the procedure followed in the treatment of the famine of 1877-78; but in the face of the fact that upwards of five millions of human beings suffered on that occasion the most miserable and horrible of all deaths—death from starvation—they cannot persuade themselves to express openly the opinion that SirJohn Strachey's famine policy should be regarded as a precedent. They broadly hint that the mortality which occurred in 1877-78 could not have been prevented under a better system. The only fault which the majority of the Commissioners find with the relief measures adopted in Behar in 1873-74 is that they exceeded the necessities of the case; but we have already said that in famine, as in war, it is a thousand times better to be above than under the mark. Well do Mr. James Caird and Mr. H. E. Sullivan of the Madras Civil Service, in their minute of dissent, assume "that the first object of famine administration by the British Government in India will be to save life." They observe:—"In all famines on record which have occurred in India, that of Behar in 1874 is the only instance in which this object, though at an excessive cost, appears to have been satisfactorily accomplished." This must be the opinion of every sensible and right-thinking person, who takes the trouble of mastering the subject.

The Famine Commissioners hold that the administration of relief in famine time should be restricted to certain important limitations, so as not to cause financial embarrassment, or check thrift and self-reliance in the people or impair the structure of Indian Society. They state, by implication, that the famine policy followed in Behar in 1873-74, producad all these evils. They consider it "especially important that the Government, when it has to deal with calamities such as famines, should so frame its measures as to avoid every tendency to relax in the people the sense of the obligation, which rests on them to provide for their own support by their own labour, to cultivate habits of thrift and forethought, and as far as possible to employ the surplus of years of plenty to meet the wants of years of scarcity. The great object of saving life and giving protection from extreme suffering may not only be as well secured, but in fact will be far better secured, if proper care be taken to prevent the abuse and demoralization which all experience shows to be the consequence of ill-directed and excessive distribution of charitable relief." Again:—"The structure of Indian Society is, in some ways, admirably adapted for common effort against a common misfortune. The ordinary form of life in the Hindu Family makes each individual a member of a corporate body, in whose possessions, rights and duties he participates, and to which he is legally entitled to look for assistance in time of need. Even when the legal right does not exist, the moral obligation of mutual assistance is scarcely less distinctly recognized. Apart from family ties there are other relationships, such as that of landlord and tenant, master and servant, employer of agricultural labour and employed, alms-giver and alms-receiver, which are of the utmost importance in binding the social fabric together, and enabling it to resist any further strain. There are, too, salutary habits of frugality and foresight, the precious result of traditional experience, which have an all-important bearing upon the power of Indian Society to pass comparatively unscathed through periods of dearth. Any form of relief calculated to bring these rights into obscurity or desuetude or to break down these habits by showing them to be superfluous, would be an incalculable misfortune. In the same way anything which diminishes the reluctance which the people exhibit to accept public charity, and the eagerness with which at the earliest opportunity they recur to their own unaided labour for support, would be a certain cause of future grave evil." Now, the apprehensions expressed by the Famine Commissioners are altogether groundless. There is nothing to show that the practical working of Lord Northbrook's famine policy produced in Behar the evils mentioned by the Commissioners. The testimony of the Commissioners themselves contained in para 57 of their report is conclusive on this point. They write:—"The result of inquiries specially made on the subject was to indicate that no mortality whatever was due to the [Behar] famine, and that the *bountiful relief given did not have the effect of rendering the population indisposed to return to their usual labours when it ceased.*" This clearly shows that no demoralization whatever resulted from the operation of the relief measures adopted in Behar in 1873-74. We may mention here that the evidence collected by the Deccan Riots Commission proved to demonstration that the Indian peasantry are not wanting in habits of thrift and self-reliance. But it must be borne in mind that the bulk of the agricultural classes have no resources beyond the current harvest and that the labouring classes have no resources beyond the current day. It is idle to talk of encouraging habits of thrift and self-reliance in such people. Experience has shown that the people desert relief works and proceed to their villages as soon as the fall of copious rain renders agricultural operations practicable. Sir John Strachey and his followers may describe relief operations in time of famine as "a picnic;" but it is only heartless men who can take such a view of the case. The peasant or the labourer does not leave his home and resort to relief works except under the most extreme necessity; and he is anxious to return to it as soon he can do so. To say that relief operations demoralize such people is simply to libel them.

Nor can the administration of famine relief on the principles followed in Behar be a cause of financial embarassment. It should be remembered "that severe famines as a rule affect limited areas, that considerable portions of the country are naturally exempt or have been artificially protected from them, and that such great emergencies are of rare occurrence, intervals of 11 or 12 years commonly elapsing between the scarcities of second-rate intensity and more than double that period between severest famines." The Famine Commissioners calculate that taking the probable maximum number of persons to be relieved in the worst famine for an average time of one year at 2½ millions, and reckoning the cost per head, including all contingencies, as not likely to exceed £5, the maximum charge in any future year would be 12½ millions sterling. The Commissioners, accordingly, came to the conclusion that a yearly suplus of 1½ millions sterling is quite sufficient to discharge the obligation of the State to give relief in time of famine. With this sum at its disposal for famine relief purposes the Government can afford to follow the relief principles adopted in Behar in 1873-74. Mr. Caird and Mr. Sullivan, in their minute of dissent, write:—"The estimate made in section 75, page 26 of this Report, shows, from past experience, that the largest population likely to be severely affected by famine at one time may be taken at 30 millions, 10 per cent. of whom we may reckon it may be necessary for the state to relieve for an average of a year. The cost of this for 3 millions of people, at £3 a head, at famine prices would be a million, and this would provide relief on a scale double that given in Madras and Bombay in 1876-77. As famines of this magnitude have not occurred at an interval of less than 12 years, it would appear that the annual reserve fund of £1,500,000 now made by the Government, if so applied, should ampoly suffice to meet this calamity. On the Indian population this would be an extremely small expenditure on poor relief, not one-fortieth part per head of that of the United Kingdom. The amount is so moderate that if acute distress, and its consequent terrible mortality can be prevented by such an insurance fund, no financial excuse can be admitted to justify famine deaths. Nor should any practice be adopted, which needlessly aggravates the distress, or is likely to lead to increased mortality." If the Government of India will only fulfil the solemn pledge it gave to the people of India in the beginning of 1878 to the effect that the proceeds of the special taxes then imposed would be applied to the purpose of famine relief, there need be no financial excuse for mismanaging famines. The people of India acquiesced in the imposition of the additional burdens on the distinct understanding that, the annual reserve of £1,500,000 would be set apart for preventing famine deaths. But no sooner were the new taxes brought into operation than Lord Lytton and Sir John Strachey straight way proceeded to apply their proceeds to partially remitting the cost of the Afghan war. Lord Northbrook has shown that of the cotton duties and defraying the cost of the first object of famine administration should be to save life; and he has also shown how this important object can be successfully accomplished. No departure from His Lordship's noble policy can be justified, when the Government, by the imposition of additional burdens on the people, has made provision for securing a yearly surplus of 1½ millions to discharge the obligation of the State to give relief in time of famine.

MR. BUCK'S VINDICATION.

Sir Ashley Eden's merciless exposure of Mr. Buck imposed on the latter the necessity of making an attempt to justify the existence of the Department over which he presides. The latter has accordingly published an elaborate vindication in the shape of an administration report. This paper is not an ordinary annual administration report; it reviews the progress made in carrying out the programme laid down in Sir John Strachey's minute of 28th November 1874, constituting a Department of Agriculture and Commerce for the North-Western Provinces. Mr. Buck publishes the minute *in extenso* as an ap-

pendix to his report. He contends that he is no more responsible for the "objects and aims" of the Department as laid down in the original programme submitted by the Government of the North-Western Provinces to the Government of India and the Secretary of State, and, for existence of obstacles in the way of accomplishing those "objects and aims" than is the leader of a besieging party responsible for the difficulties of ground between him and the fort he is instructed to storm. Now, the public does not hold Mr. Buck personally responsible for the failure of the North West Department of Agriculture and Commerce to achieve important results. He is certainly a very deserving officer, and has done his best to make the Department placed under his charge useful. So far there can be no room for any difference of opinion. But what the public does say is, that the "objects and aims" of the Department as laid down in Sir John Strachey's minute are impracticable in the existing state of things, and that such being the case, the maintenance of the Department involves a useless waste of time, money and energy, which might be more usefully applied to some other purpose.

In his minute of 28th November 1874 Sir John Strachey remarked that the duty of the proposed Department of Agriculture and Commerce for the North-Western Provinces should be "to organise the collection of agricultural and commercial statistics, and present them in an intelligible form to the Government; to direct experiments for agricultural improvement in model farms or elsewhere; to watch and report on the progress of trade, and to suggest in what directions it may be developed, or hindrances to its prosperity may be removed; to investigate facts connected with the condition of the agricultural classes; and generally to be the executive agency by which the local Government may carry into effect, in these [the North-Western] provinces, the intentions of the Government of India when the new Department was founded." Sir John continued:—"The first duty of the Provincial Department of Agriculture and Commerce would be the preparation of a well-organised scheme for the collection and arrangement of agricultutal and commercial statistics, for before anything it is necessary to ascertain the facts and conditions by which we are surrounded. Although a large amount of general information exists on these subjects, it is unsystematic and wanting in precision, and it lies to a great extent buried in unknown and inaccessible records. Almost every question that is brought forward for the consideration of this Government in connection with agriculture or with commerce is involved in more or less doubt and uncertainty, which render a satisfactory determination difficult; for the facts upon which alone a sound conclusion can be based are either wanting or can hardly be elicited without protracted enquiry." And, accordingly, the duty of organizing an effective system of maintaining correct and trustworthy agricultural records was entrusted to the newly created Department. The first thing required to be done in this direction was the improvement of patwaris and kanungoes; and Mr. Buck earnestly took it in hand. After working hard for upwards of two years he produced an elaborate Patwari and Kanungo Code, which aimed at raising the efficiency of these classes of officers, and thereby securing the maintenance of correct and uniform agricultural records. The Code gravely laid down that "the monthly pay of each patwari shall ordinarily be not less than Rs. 5 nor more than Rs. 12." The very idea of laying down elaborate rules with the view of promoting the efficiency and honesty of the class of village accountants, whose monthly pay is considerably smaller than the earning of a common railway porter, was ridiculous. But the matter did not present itself in that light to Mr. Buck and to the Allahabad Board of Revenue. How could patwaris drawing the magnificient sum of six or eight rupees a month be expected to be honest and efficient public servants, when these qualities have not yet been completely secured in the tahsildars and Deputy Collectors of the North-Western Provinces, passes our comprehension. Mr. Buck, in the Report before us, takes credit for the satisfactory results which, he asserts, have flowed from the practical operation of his famous Patwari and Kanungo Code; and he reminds his critics that in gauging the value of the work done by his Department, it "should not be overlooked that for a considerable period, until in fact the reform of the record system shall have been satisfactorily effected—the most considerable portion of the duties of the Department must consist in placing the administration of the record system on a sound footing." Have Mr. Buck's exertions, we ask, been successful in securing the maintenance of correct and trustworthy agricultural records? We will not answer this question, but will allow the *Pioneer*, the most ardent champion, of the North-West Department of Agriculture and Commerce, to do so. Our contemporary, in reviewing the Allahabad Revenue Board's Administration Report for 1878-79 in a recent issue, wrote:—

> Mr. Buck furnishes a note, full of a hopefulness which the Board proposes to share; he believes that the records "must perforce contain a very great deal more truth than they did of old, when they were generally drawn up in the patwari's house, and very often at some distance from the village which they concerned." Alas, is the fervent writer unaware of the fact that these enormities exist even at the present day, notwithstanding "the rules under which the new system of patwari's records was prescribed?" Has he not heard, even amid the pæans of reform, whispers of such things as papers written up wholesale by hired agents, or patwaris who live at a distance of 15 or 20 miles from the circles nominally under their charge? "It has been practically proved," says Mr. Buck, "that a patwari can, under ordinary circumstances, do *everything* that is required of him under the rules." No doubt; but how does he do it? Fudged papers are of little practical use, however fairly written and punctually filed; and the more work we lay on the patwari, the greater his temptation to fudge. Assistant Collectors are supposed to prevent fudging by testing the papers in the cold season. As a matter of fact, assistant collectors, being also assistant magistrates, rent courts, excise and education officers, municipal secretaries, and so on, have not time enough for any thorough inspection.

So much for the action of Mr. Buck's Department in the orgainzation of an effective system of maintaining village records. The subject next in order to the maintenance of correct agricultural records indicated in Sir John Strachey's minute is the collection of statistics of trade. Mr. Buck summarises what has been done by his Department in this direction. So far as the railway-borne traffic is concerned, the statistics collected by the Department are perfectly trustworthy; but the same thing cannot be said of those of the trade which passes along roads and rivers. The figures relating to railway-borne traffic are furnished by the Audit Offices of the East Indian Railway and of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway; and for the collection of the statistics of the trade no credit whatever can be claimed by the North-West Department of Agriculture and Commerce. As regards the trade along roads and rivers, the Department, after collecting for a time figures, which were not worth the paper on which they were written, has now found it desirable to reduce the extent of its operation. From the 1st April 1879 it was decided to abandon frontier registration, except along the Tibet and Nipal frontier, which would also have been given up but for the Secretary of State's orders. Mr. Buck observes:—"It was found that although frontier registration gave a general, and so far useful, outline of the main streams of traffic, yet that supervision was too troublesome and difficult to enable anything like accuracy to be guaranteed." Statistics, the accuracy of which cannot be guaranted, are worse than useless; and it is a mere waste of time, labour and money to collect such statistics. The establishment of registration posts along roads and rivers inflicts a great deal of oppression and hardship on the poor traders who have to pass these posts; while no real advantage whatever is gained from the measure. In a country where the mass of the population cannot protect themselves against the tyranny of petty officials, clothed with brief little authority, it is a great mistake to station such officials at places where their proceedings cannot be constantly supervised. For the registration of railway-borne traffic alone the agency of a separate costly department is not surely needed.

We now come to the agricultural duties of Mr. Buck's Department, and the progress made in the fulfilment of these duties. It is satisfactory to note his admission that, it would be justly held to be a waste of national funds if in each province a number of *inexperienced officials like himself and his assistant were turned loose at the public expense with no other orders than to devise a system of agricultural reform.* He, however, sees no objection to agricultural work being combined with other duties, as has been done in the case of his Department. Now, we have seen that the North-West Department of Agriculture and Commerce has failed in organising an effective system of maintaining village records; and that the statistics of trade which it collects except those of railway-borne traffic, are almost worthless. If, therefore, Mr. Buck's Department should fail to show that it has effected some improvement in agriculture, it cannot justify its existence. Mr. Buck and his assistant are confessedly no scientific agriculturists; and they are personally unacquainted with the practice of agriculture. Their knowledge of the subject is empirical; and no right-thinking person will have hesitation in saying that in agricultural, as in other matters, unscientific empiricism is an expensive luxury. Mr. Robertson, the Superintendent of the Sydapet Experimental Farm, is a scientific, practical agriculturist; and yet he has not been able to do much in the way of effecting agricultural improvement. The simple truth is, as Mr. Allan Hume, with the admiralable frankness which characterises his public utterances, has distinctly recorded in his pamphlet on Agricultural Reform, that, so far as non-scientific agriculture is concerned, the Indian cultivator has nothing to learn from his rulers. Agricultural reform in India, therefore, as we have over and over pointed out in these columns, means *the introduction of scientific agriculture.* We yield to none in our estimate of the benefits which India is sure to derive from the adoption of improved and scientific modes of tillage. Mr. James Caird, than whom there cannot be a higher authority on this subject, has conclusively shown that the difference between the best and inferior agriculture on the same soil may be more than treble the produce. Wheat grown without manure yielded 730lbs. and wheat grown with special manure yielded 2,342lbs. Now, the question is whether the ordinary Indian cultivator who has, speaking generally, no resources beyond the current harvest, and who is heavily involved in debt, can command the means of practising scientific agriculture? Those who are fully acquainted with the circumstances of this country will have no hesitation in answering this question in the negative. Deep ploughing is certainly beneficial; but Mr. Robertson has shown that unless it is accompanied with heavy manuring, it cannot result in a permanent increase of the produce of the soil. The soundness of this view will be acknowledged by every person who is personally acquainted with the practice of agriculture. The introduction of scientific agriculture in India in a word, depends on an adequate supply of manures; and inadequate supply of manures means an outlay of capital. Has the ordinary Indian cultivator any capital where with to obtain a large supply of manures? The North-West Department of Agriculture suggests the application of bone-dust as manure. We may be pardoned for reminding the public that no credit whatever is due to Mr. Buck or his assistants or his *locum tenens* for this suggestion, It was made more than three years ago by Dr. Bonavia in his report on the Horticultural Garden of Lucknow for the official year ending 31st March 1877. The scattered bones of India may, no doubt, be collected and converted into valuable manure for agricultural purposes; but the caste prejudices of the Hindu cultivator, as we have said, stand in the way of the utilization of bones, particularly cow-bones. But we think we may, for the present, do without bones. Dr. Bonavia, in his report mentioned above, says that "the agricultural arrangements of the Chinese and Japanese are pronounced to be among the best in the world, and I have never heard or read that they make use of bones as manures. They depend mainly on human excreta." The Municipalities of Amritsar in the Punjab and of Poona in Bombay have shown what can be done in the way of utilizing night-soil as manure. At Amritsar more than 30,000 donkey-loads of the manure prepared with night-soil and street sweepings were sold in the course of one year; and the Secretary to

the Poona Municipality writes :—"The manure prepared in this manner (poudrette) is much valued by cultivators and is in great demand. . . . Five years ago agriculturists would not touch the poudrette then prepared, and could not be induced to take it away at even a nominal charge. At the present moment the outturn of manure is not enough to keep pace with the demand, and it has become necessary to take special precautions that the poudrette is not taken away in its raw state which the cultivators sometimes attempt to do. They frequently pay for manure to the Municipality from four to six months *in advance* in order to ensure a timely supply." This is a stubborn fact which cannot be overcome by a thousand speculations. The *Pioneer* charges us with inconsistency, because we recommended the utilization of city refuse as manure, while expressing our opinion that religious prejudices will prevent the Hindu cultivator making use of bones. But as practical men our business is with facts and not with theories. It has been proved to demonstration at Amritsar and Poona that Native cultivators value the manure prepared with night-soil and street-sweepings in those cities and that fact ought to be conclusive. Again, there can be no doubt, as Dr. Bonavia says, "that in wood-ashes, night-soil, cowdung, horse-litter and the leaves of trees India possesses all the manurial ingredients required to be added to the soil." The fact is, that as the Indian cultivator cannot afford to buy fire-wood, he is obliged to use the manurial substances at his command for fuel. If fire-wood were cheap he would readily cease to diverting cow-dung and leaves of trees from their legitimate office of manure which he does not, as is foolishly supposed from habit, but from sheer necessity. If the North-West Department of Agriculture and Commerce could do something in the direction of securing an abundant supply of cheap fire-wood so as to enable the ryot to apply manurial substances at his command to his land instead of burning them as fuel, it would employ its time and attention more usefully than in making impracticable suggestions or trying agricultural experiments of doubtful value at other people's expense.

Sir John Strachey in his minute of 28th November 1874 suggested that estates under the Court of Wards should be utilized for promoting agricultural experiments. Nothing important in this direction could, however, be done until the Awa Estate in the Agra Division, the largest zemindari estate in the temporarily settled portion of the North-Western Provinces came under the Court of Wards. Sir Ashley Eden has rightly protested against trying agricultural experiments at the expense of wards. He holds that such experiments are "entirely inconsistent with the conscientious discharge of its duty by Government as a trustee, and that Government has no more right to take advantage of its position as a trustee to try experiments in agriculture than it has to use wards estate funds for speculative purposes." Nothing could be sounder than the principle land down by Sir Ashley Eden. Mr. Buck attempts to show that Court of Wards estates can be economically used for the purpose of effecting agricultural improvement without injury to those estates; but the attempt is a miserable failure. Mr. Buck approvingly quotes the advice given by the late Lord Mayo in the following words :—"In connection with agriculture we must be careful of two things :—First, we must not ostentatiously tell native husbandmen to do things which they have been doing for centuries. Secondly, we must not tell them to do things which they can't do and have no means of doing. In either case they will laugh at us and they will learn to disregard really useful advice when it is given." If this sound advice were followed, the would-be agricultural reformer in India should seal his tongue ; for Native cultivators have nothing to learn, so far as non-scientific agriculture is concerned ; and the adoption of scientific agriculture is wholly beyond their means.

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT FOR INDIA.

IT will be in the recollection of the reader that shortly before the late General Election commenced in England, Mr. J. Shaw Stewart, a retired member of the Bombay Civil Service, submitted to Lord Cranbrook, the then Secretary of State for India, a scheme of representative Government for this country. The framer of this scheme pointed out the imperative necessity of obtaining the real opinion of the Natives of India on public questions and measures; and he pertinently remarked that most of the numerous mistakes which the English rulers of India had made were due to the fact that they had no power of getting an authoritative, independent and official record of the opinion of the people on the schemes they undertook. Mr. Shaw Stewart recommended the establishment of a consultative council, consisting of non-official and independent men, Europeans and Natives, acquainted with the circumstances of the country. In his letter to the Secretary of State he roughly sketched a scheme for giving effect to his proposal. He wrote :—"British India contains about 280 collectorates and this increased by about 50 members to represent the great cities would be a convenient figure at which to fix the number of the ordinary members of the council. I should like to see an elective body formed in each district for the election by ballot of Councillors. Elections might take place every five years. The details of this might be easily arranged."

In a letter recently addressed to Mr. Anand Mohun Bose, Honorary Secretary to the Indian Association, Mr. Shaw Stewart gives the details of his scheme, and shews the great advantage which India would derive from the establishment of a Consultive Council. He observes that the proposed experiment is "one of vital importance to India," and then goes on to say :—"If, on trial it is not found to answer well, I fear all hope of getting representative Government for India would have to be abandoned. If on the contrary (as I hope will be the case) the Council I have proposed is found to facilitate the good Government of India, then its gradual development into an autonomic chamber will, in all probability, be only a question of time. No observer of constitutional history can doubt that a representative assembly doing its work in the spirit of loyalty, order, and honesty must gradually secure for itself predominance in affairs. Official doubt and dislike of such a Council will naturally be somewhat strong in India ; but such feelings would be soon disarmed, and the labour of governing India, (under which the present Government is showing signs of yielding), would be shifted to the only body capable of supporting the burden, namely, the people of India as represented in a Parliamentary Chamber." Mr. Shaw Stewart then gives the details of his scheme. We have said above that in his letter to the Secretary of State he proposed that each of the Collectorates or Zillahs into which India is divided for fiscal purposes, should be an Electoral District and return one member, and that a certain number of the largest cities in India should also be represented. There are about 20 cities in India, and these, in Mr. Shaw Stewarts' opinion, should return, 1, 2, or 3 members, returning 30 in all. He would give each of the three Universities of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay the power of returning one or two members, to be elected by the graduates. Mr. Shaw Stewart states that he hesitated between one deputy for each district and two ; and though two might be given without increasing the size of the Council beyond that of the House of Commons, he has, for the present, preferred only one member for each Collectorate. All males above the age of 18 years, who pay Income tax, License tax or Land tax, or own rent free land of the value of Rs. 1000, or own or occupy a house of the value of Rs. 500, or are Municipal Commissioners, are to be qualified to vote ; while no one is to be nominated as a candidate who is either a female, or less than 25 years of age, or has been convicted of any offence punishable with rigorous imprisonment for three years and upwards, or is a bankrupt or holds any office under Government that qualifies pension or is not a British subject. The mode of voting recommended by Mr. Shaw Stewart is ballot under the rules in force in the United Kingdom so far as practicable. To each of the ordinary members of the Council he would pay an annual honorarium of Rs. 1000, and an allowance of Rs. 10 per diem for each day of attendance during the session. The proposed allowance of Rs. 10 per diem seems to us to be small ; it should, to our thinking, be fixed at Rupees 16 at least. The next question relates to place of meeting of the proposed Council. Mr. Shaw Stewart objects to Calcutta because it is not central, and suggests Agra, Nagpore, or Poona, as desirable places of meeting. Now, although Calcutta is not central, there will be many advantages in holding the meetings of the proposed Consultative Council in the metropolis of India. London is not in the centre of the United Kingdom, and yet the British Parliament meets there and legislates for the whole of the kingdom. If a centrically situated spot is to be chosen as place of meeting, the choice should, in our opinion, fall upon Allahabad. Mr. Shaw Stewart would have no ministerial seats in his proposed Consultative Council as there are in the French Chamber. But he rightly thinks that the Government of India should be represented during the session of Council by a High Official, who should be ready to give any information and assistance the Council requires, without, however, having any control over the body or taking any part in its deliberations. The council should have the power to elect its own President, appoint its own officials, and make its own rules of procedure. The Government should cause a suitable building to be erected for the Council, and supply it with the fullest informations as to the accounts and finances of India ; and it will be the duty of the Council to consider and revise the estimates. After giving all these details of his scheme Mr. Shaw Stewart writes :—"If my scheme is carried out, India will have a great Council of 300 or 350 men, chosen by the free votes of an electorate consisting of about one-fourth of the adult male population, (and which in process of time would, of course, be extended) ; and this Council would meet in complete freedom from official control, but with all information of the Government of India at its disposal. Every scheme connected with the administration of India would be placed before us previous to final sanction, and it would have the opportunity of placing its deliberate opinion on record, with absolute independence. Although such a Council may wield no authority, it would still offer to the patriotic and educated Natives of India a career of great value as affording them both a means of useful service to their country and an opportunity of learning the modern arts of Government and statesmanship, in which, in times past so many of them—Mahomedans as well as Hindus—were profoundly versed. In fact, it would be the first sign and promise of a real national life of which the formation of Associations like yours has only been the precursor." Again, well does Mr. Shaw Stewart say that, "so long as the Government of India is a pure bureaucratic despotism, so long will the people of India suffer from stagnation, and the want of that political activity, which is the life of societies like ours. On the other hand, until the people of India are provided with a voice by which to express their needs and wishes, no Government, however benevolent, can succeed in making them happy or avoid mistakes."

Nothing could be nobler than the sentiments expressed by Mr. Shaw Stewart or more useful than the scheme propounded by him. We must, however, confess frankly that we have some doubts as to the feasibility of this excellent scheme. So far as the great cities and some of the principal towns are concerned Mr. Shaw Stewart's proposal can be carried out. But we must not forget that it would, in the existing state of things, be exceedingly difficult, nay almost impossible, to form an elective body in most of the districts in the interior of the country for the election of Councillors. The first step that should be taken in the direction of carrying out Mr. Shaw Stewart's scheme would be to extend the elective system to all first-class municipalities throughout the length and breadth of the territory under direct British rule. There is, indeed, no reason why this should not be done at once. The application of the principle of election to towns like Serampore, Krishnagore, &c., has proved successful. For the present, we should

be satisfied with a less ambitious scheme than that so ably and carefully elaborated by Mr. Shaw Stewart. The moderate measure recommended by the British Indian Association in its memorial to Parliament praying for the appointment of a Royal Commission to enquire into the administration of India since the transfer of its Government to the Crown, can be immediately carried out with great advantage. The Association hold that a representation of the people, though partial and incomplete, may be secured in the Legislative Councils, by conceding to the Municipal Boards of the several Presidency towns and of a few other principal towns the right of electing a fair proportion of non-official members, and by extending the scope of the deliberations of the Council so as to include financial matters. Parliament should have no hesitation to grant this small measure of representation to India. The reader may remember that this scheme has the approval of Sir David Wedderburn, who has so zealously interested himself in the question of securing popular representation in this country. At the beginning of the last session of Parliament Sir David, in his place in the House of Commons, declared that the best method of effecting this reform "would be to have representative members in the Legislative Councils, through which the Government of India was practically carried on;" and he urged that the principle of popular representation should be introduced in the appointment of Native memmers of the Legislative Councils. When the experiment of having elected members in the Legislative Councils has proved successful—and we have no manner of doubt that it will be so—the time will come for the adoption of Mr. Shaw Stewart's scheme of Representative Government for India.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

THERE is a wild rumour afloat that Abdur Rahman has been assassinated and that Kabul is in the throes of a fresh Revolution. Of course this rumour requires confirmation, but we should not be surprised if it should turn out to be true. Happily we are now out of the fray.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Urdu and Bengali translations of the Report of the Rent Commission and the Rent Bill drafted by them have been completed. The Urdu version appeared in the last *Urdu Gazette*. The Bengali version will appear in the next Bengali *Government Gazette*. Great credit is due to the Translation Department of the Government of Bengal for the rapidity with which it has executed the work. We hope ample time will be now allowed to the native public for the digestion of the Report and the Bill.

WE ARE glad to learn that the Behar landholders will hold a public meeting at Bankipore on the 5th instant for the consideration of the new Rent Bill. We hope similar meetings will be held in all the districts of Bengal and Behar. They should be followed by a monster meeting in Calcutta.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Tramway Company will run cars on the Sealdah line from this day. The scale of fares fixed is from one anna to one anna and a half for each seat for one journey. There will be reserved accommodation at higher fares.

IT AFFORDS us great satisfaction to learn that Mr. W. C. Bonerjee has been appointed Standing Counsel to Government. The Government could not have made a better selection for that important post. The success of Mr. Bonerjee at the bar is a matter of national congratulation. In point of practice he is we believe on a par with most of the leading members of the Calcutta bar, and both the judges and profession equally respect him. We have heard of cases in which his opinion has led his veteran *collaborateurs*. His command over the English language is remarkable; we have heard Englishmen say that when he spoke they could hardly make out that he was a native unless from his appearance and nationality.

WE ARE informed that the memorial lately presented to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal by certain inhabitants of Deoghur, complaining of the conduct of the sub-divisional officer, has been made over to the Commissioner of Bhagulpur for enquiry. The memorial was published in the *Statesman* for September 25. We hope the opportunity will be taken to enquire into the truth of the statement which appeared in the *Indian Mirror* of October 1, regarding the punishment with the cat of two juvenile offenders under 8 years of age, who had been guilty of the grave offence of pelting stones. The law enjoins school discipline with a rattan, but the cat was preferred as more effectual. We have been informed of a similar case which happened in Asadh last, and the issue of which was disastrous. It is said that one Sona Mahtor, of Village Pasardah, Talook Bangha, was found guilty of stealing firewood, and punished with thirty stripes. He was very lean and weak, and then suffering from a chronic disease which had made him totally unfit for such a punishment. He was taken down from the whipping-post almost senseless, and he died of the infliction on the 5th day. We give the case as we have heard it, but cannot vouch for its truth. Mr. Barlow will be able easily to ascertain whether it is true or not. Notwithstanding the high authority of G. A. S. of the *Illustrated London News* to the contrary, many people believe that

> "Solomon said, in accents mild,
> Spare the rod, and spoil the child:
> Be he man, or be she maid,
> Whip'em and wallop'em, Solomon said."

Any how the whipping and walloping were, we think, not intended to extend to fainting and death. Even in medical practice bleeding to syncope does not now obtain to any extent.

WE THANK Messrs. Thacker & Co. for a copy of a new legal work entitled "Compendium of Criminal Rulings," by Kedarnath Ghosh B. L. It contains the substance of all criminal rulings published in the Bengal Law Reports and Indian Law Reports from the institution of the High Courts in India to December 1879, comprising a period of eighteen years. It is a valuable digest, and will be equally useful to the profession and to the lay public.

MR. PATRICK MCGUIRE has sent us a copy of his treatise on Lightning Conductors. The author has taken much trouble in collecting a mass of valuable information on the subject. The treatise is written in a popular style, and easily comprehensible to the general reader.

SOME ENQUIRIES have been made as to when the Statistical Survey and Imperial Gazette of India will be available to the public. We are informed that the complete Gazetteer would have been issued in December next, but for additional work assigned by the Secretary of State in connection with the Native Territories and the impossibility of fixing the N W. Frontier line for the map &c. We glean from the last annual report of the Royal Asiatic Society the following on the subject:

Imperial Gazetteer and Statistical Survey of India.—As stated in the last Annual Report, these operations range themselves under two heads: first, the Statistical Survey of India, carried out district by district, with a view to the collecting of local materials; and, secondly the Imperial Gazetteer, or the condensation of these materials into a concise alphabetical form. The *Statistical Survey* has now been completed in eleven out of fourteen Presidencies and Provinces of British India, and the results have been printed in ninety volumes, making about 30,000 pages. The *Imperial Gazetteer* has progressed rapidly during the last year. All the articles, exceeding 8000, have been compiled in manuscript; five volumes, in all containing 2815 pages, have been printed off, and others are passing through the press, The whole will comprise ten volumes, or about 5250 pages. and will be completed in 1881, that is, in exactly ten years from the commencement of the statistical Survey by Dr. W. W. Hunter, the Director-General of Statistics, who has been throughout in charge of this work.

ON THE outbreak of the Sepoy Mutiny in 1857 a Fund was started in England for the relief of sufferers from the Mutiny, called the Indian Mutiny Relief Fund. The following statement gives a summary of the fund:

Balance sheet from August, 1857 to December 31, 1879:—

	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To amount of subscription	440,763	7 8	By amount of allowancet and donations	307,326	10 4
To interest on securities	140,449	16 3	By advances to sufferers	12,464	10 6
To advances repaid	4,903	9-3	By remittance to India	140,286	18 7
			By expenses of management	20,593	16 6
			By difference on price of securities	877	1 4
			By Balance December 31, 1879	104,566	16 4
	£586,116	13 4		£586,116	13 7

GEO. J. HAMILTON,
Secretary.

It would appear that the Committee in charge of the fund applied to the Charity Commissioners to take over the fund and release them from their trust; but finding that the Commissioners, though willing to comply with their request, had no power to relieve them from their duties as trustees, application was made to the Court of Chancery, under whose authority a temporary scheme, which has been in operation for the last two or three years, has been sanctioned, in accordance with which the assets at the disposal of the Committee have been transferred to the Pay-master-General of theCourt, the power being reserved to them to administer as before under an order of the Court the income of the fund, while the order is in no way to interfere with the allowances which have been granted to the present recipient, or to prevent the due consideration by the Committee of any applications which may from time to time be brought under their notice in the future.

WE CONSIDER it our duty to call the attention of Government to the arbitrary and capricious manner in which License tax assessments are being made by the Collector of Calcutta. We had hitherto abstained from making any remarks on the subject in the hope that Mr. Goodricke being a new man would, as he gained experience, proceed in the right way. But from what we hear on all sides our hope has not been realized. Things, if we are informed aright, are going from bad to worse. The Municipal assessments as a rule have been altered and increased; we do not find fault with this, because under the old Act the assessments made by the Municipality were according to the nature of the business of the assessee; a person carrying on a particular business was liable to be assessed according to the class under which he came; this distinction has been done away with by the new Act, and all persons are now liable to assessment according to the classification in the schedule, provided the assessment did not exceed 2 per cent. upon their profits. But practically the assessments we hear have been very arbitrary. Persons, whose earnings or profits do not render them liable to an assessment of Rs. 10, have been assessed at Rs. 50; others liable to Rs. 50, have been assessed at Rs. 100, Rs. 200, and even Rs. 500; others again not liable at all have been arbitrarily brought under assessment. The poorer classes of people do not keep regular accounts, and they are quite helpless in rebutting capricious assessments. No oral evidence of the reputed means of the assessee is admitted in such cases. Where accounts are forthcoming, little attention is paid to them. The Collector has a peculiar method of looking into accounts. He sums up the amount of purchases and sales and infers that the assessee must have made a certain percentage of profits, though the accounts adjusted show the contrary. He would not believe that a person might have had transactions of lakhs of rupees, and yet far from making profits might have suffered loss, not to say that where profits have been made they might have been quite disproportionate to the capital employed. Sometimes funy reasons are assigned for assessment. One man is told that your look does not indicate that you live on small profits. In one intance a doctor, who keeps a dispensary, and does not make even Rs. 500 per annum from the business, produced his books in support of his statement, but he was told that he was so respectable that he ought to pay something as license tax. The reasons assigned

are so original and queer that it would pay our contemporary of the *Charivari* to collect and print them. But what is sport to the Collector is death to the poor assessees. It might be said that redress might be obtained by appeal to the Presidency Commissioner, but it so happens that the bulk of the assessees, who are poor and ignorant, do not as a matter of fact know that an appeal lies to the Commissioner, and that hence the comparative absence of appeals. We have asked those who have complained to us as to whether they have appealed, and their answer has invariably been that they did not know the provision of appeal. Of course ignorance of the law is no plea but the fact cannot be gainsaid. Then the assessees being generally busy men, to whom time is money, they cannot afford to stand the expense and worry of an appeal. The provision of the appeal does not, however, justify the Collector in making arbitrary and capricious assessments. The widespread dissatisfaction, which exists among all classes of assessees throughout the town, is a sufficient proof of the nature of the assessments made. We believe the Government is not altogether unaware of it, for we hear that some of the aggrieved have made petitions to it direct. In some cases we are told assessees have gone to the expense of employing professional men to represent their cases, but they have been generally equally unsuccessful. It is a matter of no little surprise that such arbitrary and capricious proceedings are being carried on in the heart of the capital and in defiance of public opinion. Things were bad enough in the hands of the Municipality, but they have become far worse under the Collector. The Commissioners were some check upon the doings of their executive; in many cases certificates from Ward Commissioners were accepted by the Chairman, but no such agency obtains under the existing Act, and the Collector therefore does what he likes. Perhaps we do not exaggerate when we say that the assessees feel as if they were under a reign of terror. Will Sir Ashley Eden remain quiet and do nothing to allay the irritation and dissatisfaction caused by the arbitrary proceedings of the Calcutta Collector?

SIR WILLIAM PALLISER has sent us his letter to the *Times* on Kandahar. He is in favour of the annexation of Kandahar, and he quotes eminent authorities, whose views and ideas tend to strengthen his opinion. According to the gallant Knight the destiny of British rule in India may be largely affected by the decision of Government with regard to a strong strategical position beyond the Suliman Mountains. Sir William starts with the position that the present frontier of British India lies in front of and not behind those mountains, and considers that these being like a wall separating two combatant forces are in disadvantage to the forces which are in front of it. He quotes the opinion of a German Officer, who described our boundary running along the feet of the Suliman mountains, as reaching the glacis of a fortress which was not in our possession. He further presents General Hamley's assumption that the real invasion of India would sweep down *via* Kandahar and the Bolan Pass into the great plain on the right bank of the lower Indus. Next Captain Eastwick's pamphlet on the Affghan War is cited. Captain Eastwick says, "there is no doubt that Kandahar, converted into a strong fortress, and held by an adequate garrison of British troops, would prove a formidable obstacle to an invading army. Its situation in the most fertile portion of Afghanstan, commanding the roads to India, offers great advantage in a purely military point of view." General Hamley is a second time pressed into the service to say that, it is manifestly a disadvantage to await invasion in India, and there is no territory on which it would be more perilous to give an enemy the chance of winning a battle than our Indian Empire. Sir William himself is of opinion that in the event of a war between England and Russia, and the latter thinking of invading India would take the route from the Caspian to Merve, and making some preliminary preparations would assemble an army of invasion at Merve and Herat, while an advanced guard would be moved on to Kandahar to form a huge depot or base of operations there as well as at Kabul, and to unite with the Afghan army. Having advanced these and various other arguments, Sir William concludes with these observations: "Kandahar has now come to us a flotsome upon a sea of troubles. She is a prize of inestimable value. Shall we keep her or hand her over in order that her people may be ground down with taxes to support the luxuries of the Cabul Harems." When talking of self-protection the expression of sympathy for the imaginary oppression of the Kandahar people comes in a doubtful shape. But the gallant Knight is well aware of the commendable weakness of his countrymen. It would be presumption on our part to combat professional opinion on strategical questions, but this is what the *London Statesman* says on the opinion that Kandahar will be a granary for India:

"Every one acquanted with Afghanistan knows that there is in that country (Afghanistan) no margin of supply over demand sufficiently large to create an export of cereals, while any extension of cultivation is impossible from the lack of irrigating streams, the uncertainty of the rainfall, the want of labor, and every other condition of production upon a large scale."

Happily the present Government is opposed to annexation.

WE ARE requested to publish the following contradiction:

SIR,—With reference to your issue of the 13th September regarding the publication of the Halayudha based on the edition of Professor Aufrecht, I beg to state for the information of the public that I have never published nor edited the Halayudha nor I have seen any edition of the said book by Professor Aufrecht.

JIVANAND VIDYASAGAR,

29th October 1880.

P.S.—I beg to send a complete list of my publications from which you will learn that I have never published it.

WE ARE requested to mention that the Government have appointed His Highness the Maharaja of Kooch Behar a member of the Honorary Committee for the management of the Calcutta Zoological Garden.

REVIEW.

Gatha. By the authoress of Dip Nirvan. Calcutta: Valmiki Press 1287 *B.* S.

The writer of this charming little book of poetical tales is Srimati Surna Kumari Devi, a daughter of our well-known fellow-townsman, the Venerable Babu Devendranath Tagore. While yet in her teens, she commenced four years ago her literary career with the *Dip Nirvan*. The works of the fair writer, like those of the late lamented Miss Toru Dutt, possess, for obvious reasons, a peculiar interest. Miss Toru Dutt finished her education in Europe and wrote in foregn languages, while Srimati Surna Kumari is, and has always been an inmate of the zenana, and she writes in her mother-tongue. An educated Hindu woman's observations on men and things in general, embodied in a chaste and vigorous style can hardly fail to arrest the attention of the student of literature and the social philosopher.

The first production of Srimati Sarna Kumari Devi, *Dip Nirvan*, an historical romance, made its appearance in 1876; and it is no exaggeration to say that the literary public was surprised with it. As the book which possessed great merits did not disclose the name of its writer, speculation was naturally rife as to its authorship. It became known in course of time that the accomplished writer was a young Hindu lady belonging to one of the highest families in the metropolis. The *Dip Nirvan*, as might have been expected, called forth warm encomiums from literary critics and the Bengali reading public. It displayed such beautiful conception and skilful delineation of characters, such depth and purity of thought and such chasteness and eloquence of style, that the public was forced to the conclusion that its writer was possessed of high talents. The *Calcutta Reviewer* felt no hesitation in pronouncing *Dip Nirvan* "to be by far the best book that has yet been written by a Bengali lady" and in calling "it one of the ablest in the whole literature of Bengal." It is needless to add that the work gave promise of great future excellence. Srimaty Surna Kumari Devi's two next works, *Basanta Utsav* or the Spring Festival, a melodrama, and *Chhinna Mukul* or the Broken Blossom, a novel, followed each other in quick succession. *Basanta Utsav* contains many passages of intrinsic poetic beauty and many sweet songs, which testify to the writer's powers as a poet and a musical composer. She has evidently inherited a large share of the superior musical talents of her family, which has the honour of claiming Raja Sourindra Mohun Tagore as one of its ornaments. *Chhinna Mukul*, which is a tale of our own days comes quite up to the mark, and fully supports the previous reputation of the writer. She then produced *Malati*, an excellent novel, in which within a short compass, are vividly portrayed some of the subtlest workings of the human heart.

Srimati Surna Kumari Devi's last published work is *Gatha*, which is now before us. It is a collection of four beautiful Idylls, and as such, a novelty in Bengali literature. Its poetry, as a contemporary justly remarks, "is the poetry of genuine heart-felt pathos—powerful from its sublimity and affecting from its tenderness"; and its versification is delicate and sweet. It is difficult to single out any one passage when so many challenge our admiration. But the best piece in the book is certainly that with which it concludes. The story on which this truly pathetic price is based is very simple. A young man leaving behind his beloved and charming wife goes to a distant foreign country to fight the battle of life. He achieves success and sets out for home. He, however, encounters the grave perils of a shipwreck on the return journey, and reaches his destination just in time to clasp in his agonised bosor the almost lifeless form of his wife. The feeling and situation of the unfortunate wife are beautifully conceived and skilfully delineated. The richnese of imagination with which the picture of the final catastrophe is drawn cannot be sufficiently admired, and reminds us of some of Byron's vigourous touches.

It is customary to make some relaxation of strict critical canons in favour of lady writers. But there is no necessity for extending this indulgence of the productions of Srimati Surna Kumari Devi. Her works, have no doubt defects; but the defects are quite characteristic. The pictures she draws are certainly very good in their own way; but somehow all the female figures discover the same face. The heroines are all cast in the same mould; they are all exquisitely beautiful passionately affectionate and endure with remarkable fortitude the terrible sufferings heaped on their devoted heads by the falsity or selfishness of men. We may as well remark here that the most curious and interesting feature in the Bengali literature of the present day is that though it contains many exquisite pictures of woman it has not a single skilfully executed portrait of man to boast of. The works of Srimati Surna Kumari Ghosal show clearly that she is will read in both English and Sanskrit poetry as well as in European works of imagination; and we perfectly agree with the Calcutta Correspondent of the *Hindu* of Madras, an extract from whose letter we published in these columns some little while ago, that "never before in Bengal did a lady writer of such real powers and abilities appear, and shed such a lustre on the literature of her country" as the talented authoress of *Dip Nirvan*, *Basanta Utsav*, *Chhinna Mukul*, *Malati* and *Gatha*.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 30th October, 1880.

The week closing this day has been characterized by much inactivity, which prevailed in our commercia markets chiefly in Imports.

Piece-goods.—The demand for these since the resumption of business after the holidays continued to be very slack in consequence of the great bulk of goods, which of late have gone forward to up-country marts, where instead of passing into the hands of the consumers have helped accumulations, and until these are worked off no revival of demand can be expected. The local trade has also hardly succeeded to find buyers to the extent of their supplies before the holidays, being quite reluctant to add further to their stocks.

Stock.—Prices in the absence of demand have an easier tendency.

Yarns.—This market has also been very quiet chiefly for import kinds. Local manufactured 20s and 10s have continued to find buyers at previous rates.

Export.—This market has not been altogether inactive but there have been some transactions and in several instances prices have advanced.

Tea.—8829 cheats were offered at the public sale held on the 26th instant, when all were sold but 1105 chests at prices about an anna per lb lower.

Jute.—This market has continued to attract the notice of the trades and a fair amount of business was done even at enhanced rates, which ranged during the week at 3-2 to 5-1-6 for low to good.

Oil-seeds.—Linseed has been very firm and prices had an upward tendency. Prices ranged from 4-8 to 4-11.

Teel-seed.—Limited transactions for forward delivery in December and January next from 4-15 to 5-7 for black, mixed and white kinds.

Poppy-seed.—market continued firm. Prices.—4-15 to 5.

Wheat.—Some trasactions reported to have taken place at prices—2-5 to 2-9.

Rice.—About 60,000 bags of 2 Mds. each found buyers in the following kinds at prices as below:

Moonghy	...	...	2-6 at 2-10-6
Raree	..	...	1-12 ,, 2-2
Kazla	...	...	1-10 ,, 1-12
Soloe	...	...	1-12 ,, 1-15
Kheearee	...	...	1-6 ,, 1-12

There has been no demand for good qualities.

MONETARY.

The Bank of Bengal at the meeting of its Direcbors held on the 28th Instant reduced its rates of discount and interest one per cent. all round, making 3 per cent. the lowest rate on deposit of Government Securities, whilst money is obtainable at other places at 2 to 2½%.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

were in good request throughout the week and prices have steadily advanced to 97-4 to 97-5 for 4% and 105-10 to 105-12 for 4½%.

JOINT-STOCKS.

This market has been less active than before.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
C. H. Ramanah Naido Esq., Cuttack	6	10	0
W. W. Farquharson Esq., Elambazar	13	4	0
Baboo Ombicacharn Sen, Debrooghur	10	0	0
,, Bhoopendranath Roy, Jessore	6	10	0
,, LokenathRoy, Buxar	4	10	0
,, Tezchunder Mookerji, Mirzapore	6	10	0
,, Kissorylal Shaw, Burranagore	6	10	0
,, Shamshere Bahadoor Singh, Bhoputpur	3	8	0
,, Kallachand Bose, Patna	13	4	0
,, Bishumbhur Sannyal, Chandyvatty	10	0	0
,, Atoolchunder Ghose, Nurrail	13	4	0
,, Lalla Ram, Rupar,	6	10	0
,, Gudernath Pandey, Bhaugulpore	3	5	0
,, HurrykristoMojoomdar, Gyas, Moorshedabad	13	4	0
,, Gopimohun Roy, Nagoree	6	10	0

ERRATA.

For Kristodhone Pal, read, Kristodhone Meokerji Dholpore	6	0	0
For Poornochunder Banerji, read, Promodachurn Banerji, Allahabad	13	4	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gaze tte,— *October* 27, 1880

GENERAL.— Mr. G. K. Lyon, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nattore, Rajshahye, is allowed leave for one month, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Babu Poorno Chunder Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is appointed to have charge of the Nattore Division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. G. K. Lyon, or untill further orders.

The orders of the 27th ultimo, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 6th instant, transferring Mr. W. R. Ricketts, temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nuddea, to the Chittgong Hill Tracts district, are cancelled.

Mr. J. T. Babonau, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Runpore, in transferred to the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and posted to Sudder Station of that district.

Mr. C. H. Vowell. Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collectors First Grade, is posted to Durbhunga, on being relieved of his present duties as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of that district.

Babu Brojo Mohun Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Furreedpore, is transferred to the district of Mymensingh, and is appointed to have charge of the Atia Division of that distaict.

Moulvi Mahomed, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Atia Division of the Mymensingh district, is transferred to Furreedpore, and posted to the Sudder Station of that district.

Lieutenant R. C. A. B. Bewicke, Aide-de-Camp on the Personal Staff of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, having been posted on promotion to the First Battalion, 60th Rifles, in England, his services are replaced at the disposal of the Government of India in the Military Department with effect from the 1st proximo.

Mr H. Cox, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, in charge of the Nowada division of the Gya district, is vested with the powers of a Collector, under Act X of 1870, for the purpose of acquiring the land required for an inspection bungalow at Kawakol.

Mr. H. G. Sharp, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector who reported his return from furlough on the 18th instant is posted to the district of Rajshahye.

Moulvi Fazlul Karim, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is allowed leave for three days, under section 10, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from 20th September 1880.

POLICE, Mr. C. H. Parish, Officiating Asistant Superintendent of Police, Cattuck, is transferred to Monghyr.

Mr. P. A. Sandilands. Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, is, on return from transport duty, posted to the district of Rungpore.

Mr. H. E. C. Paget, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, is on return from transport duty posted to the district of Cattuck.

Advertisements.

BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION.

In conformity with Section 5 of Act V. of 1854 a General Meeting of Proprietors will be held on Friday the 12th instant, at noon, for the inspection of accounts for the half-year ended 31st October last, the declaration of a Dividend, and for the transaction of any other business that may be brought forward.

Calcutta, 1st November 1880. } H. W. I. WOOD, Secretary.

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Mairwara, or our Rule in India	,,	1 0 0

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H. M. BANERJEE.

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For Sale.

A large number of Saul Timbers from 3 to 6 feet in girth and 26 to 28 feet in length are now lying for sale at our Depot at Nawabgunge on the river Mohanunda near Dingraghat (Purneah) more are on the way and will arrive at the Depot at the end of the rainy season. Purchasers can have them either at Maldah or Chapghaty mohanah by previously arranging with the undersigned.

For terms and particulars apply to Baboo Jogesh Chunder Roya and Lutchmikant Upadhaya.

Nawabgunge
Dingraghat (Purneah)

Or to Baboo Bonomali Roy, care of Baboo Hari Das Prodhan, Darjeeling.

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Two practical Overseers, who have had at least three years' experience in the P. W. Department, in superintending the construction of Roads, buildings and bridges. They must be competent to Survey and Level and in estimating. Salary to commence at Rs. 100 per month, including Travelling allowance. None need apply unless good practical men.

Copies of testimonials as to ability must be submitted to the District Engineer, Road Cess Committee, Mymensingh before the 15th November 1880.

R. WALLNUTT, C E.,
District Engineer, Road Cess Committee.
Mymensingh, 12th October 1880.

A GRAND FANCY FAIR.

Will be held on next New Year's day at the Villa "Seven Tanks." For the benefit of the Calcutta Charities.

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The cost of a phial is Rs. 4 and postage about Re. 1-4, packing charges annas 8. The parcels for abroad are well-packed and carefully forwarded.

INFALLIBLE CHOLERA PILLS.

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The following are the translation of and extracts from only a few of the testimonials from patients who were cured by the use of my abovenamed medicines. They will be published in full in the form of a Pamphlet soon.

HEM CHUNDRA BANERJI,
Missir Pokhra, Benares.

DEAR SIR,

It is with much pleasure I bear testimony, to the great curative effect of your Cholera Pills purchased of you last year by my brother-in-law Babu Ishan Chundra Banerjee. In numerous cases of cholera it has been proved to be all what was claimed a speedy recovery. It was administered to some 40 cases and I am happy to say all of which proved quite successful, to say the truth it did miracles amongst us. If there be any genuine medicine for cholera I must say your "Cholera Pills" is the only one. I recommend every gentleman to have, during the cholera season, some of these pills in their hands so that they may reap the benefits of it in time. I consider it a boon amongst us and well worth the amount charged for.

You are at liberty to make use of above lines if you desire, as what I say is no exaggeration.

RAM SATYA MOOKERJI,
Behar Indigo Planters Association, Mozaffarpur.

My friend Baboo Kristo Nath Singha was bitterly suffering for about four years from Piles, Asthma and Debility. No one, for a moment, could believe that his health would be restored to him nor had they any hope of his life. As if inspired by the Almighty he began to use your Amritarasa and in a short time life was infused into him. The people here have taken it to be a miracle and the sufferers among them most importunately request you to take them under your treatment.

ESHUR CHUNDRA ROY,
Silk Factory, Chorebagan, Calcutta.

The patient who was suffering from the complication of Fever, Spleen, Asthma and other diseases has been thoroughly cured. His case was a hopeless one to Doctors and Boiddas who were consulted. The efficaciousness of your Amritarasa is wonderful.

RAM NARAIN SHAHA,
New Medical Hall, Bhaugulpore.

My youngest was under the treatment of many eminent physicians, owing to his suffering from Spleen, Dyspepsia, Diarrhœa and sores in mouth, for a protracted period of several years with no effect. At last he had recourse to your Amritarasa by the application of which he has regained his health, beauty and his usual liveliness.

RAKHAL DAS CHUCKERBUTTY,
Secy. Hit Sadhini Shobha.

Why should I refrain from enumerating the excellent qualities of your rare valuable and life-giving medicine "Amritarasa." A friend of mine who suffered for a long time from Head-ache and who tried every medicine English as well as Native has at last been relieved from his disease by using your Amritarasa.

RAJENDRA NATH DUTTA,
Secretary, Royna Club.

Amritarasa has been well-tried in the case of my mother who was suffering from colic pain. The result has been wholesome.

MOHIM CHUNDER BHUTTACHARJEE,
Gungarampore, Dinagepore.

Thanks to your "Amritarasa." I have seen the wonderful recoveries of Baboo Radha Nath Mokerjee and his wife from their respective maladies, fearful chronic dysentery and asthma of many years' standing.

SHAMA CHARN MITTRA,
Bansdiha.

A phial of your Amritarasa was used to check the attacks of Dysentery, Dyspepsia and Fever in a lying-in woman. She has perfectly recovered.

HURRI DOYAL CHOUDRY,
Worookshaha, Burdwan.

The wife of my friend was suffering from dysmenorhœa. In times the discharge of blood in her was frightful, and to such an extent that any one would swoon away before the sight. She was under treatment of every description. I am glad to inform you that she owes her recovery to your Amritarasa only.

RAKHAL DASS CHUCKERBUTTY.
Secy. Hit Sadhini Shabha, Nandan, Burdwan.

One of my relatives is almost entirely cured from the complication of such diseases, as chronic fever, spleen and diarrhœa of 7, 5 and 1 years standing respectively. With all these he was greatly reduced too. The efficaciousness of your Amritarasa is beyond description.

MADHUB CHANDRA BASU.
Mymari, Burdwan.

Amritarasa holds the most wonderful power of efficacy in the cure of hysteria, my wife had not had any attack of it since she used it.

SOORESH CHANDRA GHOSE.
Asstt. Surgeon, Roorki.

Eighteen times I procured your medicine which being administered in cases of Asthma, Gout, Chronic fever, Acidity and many other diseases proved quite successful except in the cases of two persons; my wife owes her recovery to this medicine.

DOORGA CHURN BANERJEA.
Bhowanipur, Calcutta.

I bought your medicine to the extent of a sum of Rs. 500. This is a wonderful medicine. In most obstinate diseases it has shown its wonderful power of curing as if by charm. Its efficacy has been fully observed in the cure of such diseases as colic pain, asthma, new and chronic consumption, chronic dysentery, hysteria and other female affections.

KYLASH CHUNDRA ROY MAHASOY.
Zemindar and Honorary Magistrate
Dehoorda, Baleswar.

This wretch is not going to leave you even now but this time I have brought with me such happy news that I am sure I will not incur your displeasure.

Last year exactly in this time, I procured 2 phials of your Amritarasa which you might not remember. For the last 20 years I was suffering from Dyspepsia, Doctors and Kobirajes were consulted in vain. It was also made known to you that I was a great opieta. After the receipt of your wonderful medicine I used one of the two phials but not a particle of good had been done to me notwithstanding I was convinced that the medicine will not be of any use to me untill I can renounce the habit of using opium. But you know Sir, what a difficult task it is for a man like myself to leave opium. This year, however, for various reasons I have renounced my old habit of using opium and have used the remaining one phial with a wonderful wholesome result. I am now thoroughly convinced that I will have my relief by using this medicine. The disease being of many years standing I shall have to use it for a long time for which I send you Rs. 22 for four phials of your Amritarasa. Please comply. I request you not to give this medicine to any one accustomed to the use of opium because in doing so it will be brought to misuse.

SHURID CHUNDER BANERJEE
2nd Clerk, Tipperah Post Office.

Ten rupees worth Cholera Pills bought from you were all used with success. All the patients were cured.

ROMONI KANT ROY
Damrah, Manickgunge.

Ninety patients were cured by your Cholera Pills which I procured.

GOPAL CHUNDER ADHOORJA
Maliara, Doorgapore.

I have great pleasure to inform you that I tried your Cholera Pills in fifty cases, in all of which they proved successful except in the cases of 5 or 7 persons whose diseases were in their most advanced state.

C. W. RICHARDSON.
Chairman, Satara Municipality.

I am requested by the Maharajah of Burdwan to inform you that during the outbreak of Cholera here which happened to occur among the Maharaja's servants your pills were tried and proved to be the best remedy in the cur of this infectious disease.

T. B. MILLER.
Private Secretary.

I have great pleasure in saying that in the year 1876 I have cured 80 out of 86 persons suffering from Cholera with the pills of Baboo Hem Chundra Banerjee. The Civil Surgeon of Benares made an enquiry of me regarding these cures and has kept with him all the papers showing the result and written by my own hand.

GOPEE NATH SOOKOOL.
Benares.

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WE beg to draw the attention of the various Educational Departments of Government, and of all Donors of Prizes to Colleges and Schools, to our large and varied Stock of SILVER MEDALS, suitable for Presentation to Students and successful Prize-winners.

The Empress Medal, Rs. 30 cash.

Having been repeatedly asked for a Medal bearing the representation of Her Majesty the Queen, we have just produced

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It bears on the OBVERSE the head and bust of Her Majesty, within the legend "Victoria Empress," and on the REVERSE a raised Laurel Wreath only; thus leaving space for inscription. *Vide* Illustration.

The Temple of Fame Medal 1⅜-inch, Rs. 20 cash in case.
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,, ,, 1½ ,, ... Rs. 14 ,,
Silver Medals, with Wreath on each side, 1¾ inches diameter ... . Rs. 19 ,,

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Spectacles for cataract sight and of various kinds and make to be had.

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Apply to Printer.

The Temple of Urania; or, The Art of Foretelling Events by Geomancy; the Pythagorean Wheel of Fortune, &c., &c. By M. Nostradamus, Rs. 5 per copy. Apply to Mr. Thos. Smith, City Press; and W. Newman & Co., Calcutta.

আদরিণী।

বঙ্গদর্শন, বান্ধব, আর্য্যদর্শন, কল্পদ্রুম প্রভৃতি সুপ্রসিদ্ধ মাসিক পত্র সমূহের কতিপয় সুলেখক কর্ত্তৃক আদরিণী নামে একখানি মাসিক পত্রিকা ও সমালোচনী (১২ পেজি রয়েলের ৩০ পৃষ্ঠা) আগামী অগ্রহায়ন মাস হইতে নিয়মিত রূপে প্রকাশিত হইবেক। অগ্রিম বার্ষিক মূল্য ডাকমাসুল সমেত ২৲ টাকা। যাঁহারা গ্রাহক শ্রেণী ভুক্ত হইতে ইচ্ছা করেন অনুগ্রহ করিয়া আমাকে জানাইবেন।

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The Diseases of the Chest, and the Consumption reputed incurable to this day will find an almost certain remedy in GRIMAULT &Co.'s Syrup of Hypophosphite of Lime; Asthma, Bronchitis, the different types of Cough, never resist to its salutary influence.

To distinguish GRIMAULT & Co.'sSyrup of Hypophosphite of Lime from numerous imitations made, the Genuine one is always Coloured in Rose.

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Renowned Physicians prescribe GRIMAULT'S Matico Injection as the most active and at the same time the most inoffensive remedy in the treatment of Acute and Chronic Diseases. The Matico Capsules, specially convenient to the persons who prefer an internal medication have not, like Copaiba, the inconvenience of given Nausea.

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Tonic, Reconstituent and Digestive of prime order, particularly suitable to Feeble subjects, Convalescents, old people, and Rickety Children, who find in them the Calcareous Elements entering into the Constitution of the Bones, well adapted to Ladies in the Family Way and Wet Nurses (whose milk it enriches.)

GRIMAULT & Co.'s
Indian Cigarettes.

Asthma, Nervous Coughs, Chronic, Laryngitis, Hoarseness, Loss of Voice, Facial Neuralgia and Insomnia are rapidly relieved by using those Cigarettes.

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Guarana.

A single powder of this vegetable production is sufficient to cure instantaneously the most violent Sick Headache. It is the most valuable remedy against Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and all disorders proceeding from derangement of Stomach or Bowels.

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THE

BENGAL BANKING CORPORATION Ld.

Capital 20,00,000 in 2,00,000 shares of Rs. 10. each, payable one rupee per share on application, one rupee on allotment and the balance in calls of not more than one rupee per share, each call being subject to three month's notice.

The Bank has commenced business, and is prepared to open *Current Deposit* Accounts with sums not less than Rs. 10.

On and from 1st August, 1880, until further notice the Bank will allow interest at the following rates:—On *Current Deposits* @ 2½% per annum on the lowest minimum monthly balance of Rs. 20 or upwards. No interest will be allowed on any sum exceeding Rs. 10,000 on current deposit.

On *Fixed Deposits* @ 4% per annum on 3 months'; 6% on six months'; 7½% on 12 months' and 9% on two years'. Notice of withdrawal. *Fixed Deposit* account will not be opened with any sum less than Rs. 100.

These rates will not apply to deposit made before the 1st of August, 1880.

It does the usual Banking and Agency business.

For further particulars, apply to—

BHOOBUN MOHUN DAS,
Secretary.
No. 7, Old Post Office Street, Calcutta.

DARJEELING STEAM TRAMWAY.

Notice.

This Tramway is now open for traffic between Siliguri and Kurseong, and Passengers, Parcels, and Goods can be booked through from Sealdah to Darjeeling and intermediate Stations or *vice versa*, arrangements having been made to convey by Tonga or otherwise, all Passengers and Goods to and from the temporary terminus of the Tramway.

For further particulars apply to the Traffic Superintendent, E. B. Railway, Sealdah; N. B. S. Railway Saidpore, and Darjeeling Steam Tramway Company Ld. at Siliguri, Kurseong, Darjeeling, and the various intermediate Stations or to the undersigned.

Calcutta.
22nd September, 1880. } GILLANDERS, ARBUTHNOT & Co.,
Secretaries.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

President.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K.T.

Vice-Presidents.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.

Special Notice.

LIFE ASSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

Bonus Year, 1880.

THE Books for the current Quinquennial Period close on 31st December next, when the profits accrued during the five years will be ascertained and divided.

All Policies on the Participating Scale opened in 1880, will share in that Division, and at the close of each future Quinquennium will rank for a higher Bonus compared with later Entrants.

The Bonus is calculated not only on the Original sum Assured, but also on all existing Bonus Additions previously declared.

At last Division in 1875 the Bonus ranged, according to the duration of the Policy, from £1-5s. to £2 per cent. per annum on the Original Sum Assured.

The Progressive Improvement of the Life Assurance Department may be marked by contrasting the following results for the first four years of the past Quinquennial Period with those of the present Quinquennium, *viz.*—

	1871-74.	1876-79.
New Assurances ...	£3,204,135	£3,998,880
Revenue	£1,542,144	£1,744,598
Additions to Funds ...	£321,077	£502,686

Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE

Seventieth Annual General Meeting of the Company.

Held at Edinburgh, on Friday, 2nd April, 1880.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business of the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December 1879.

Life Business.

During the year there were issued 1,084 Policies assuring £922,044, the new Premiums on which amount to £30,410-17-1.

For the year 1879 the Income of the Life Department from Premiums and interest amounted to £448,696-4-7.

The Claims which arose during the year, including 17 Endowments, were 265 in number, arising under 322 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount, with Bonus additions, to the sum of £279,054-2-0, after deducting re-assurances. The Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,989,885-11-4, being an increase of £137,319-0-1 over the amount on 31st December 1878. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and by Act of Parliament is set aside to meet the claims under this Department of the Company's business.

General Agents for India; ROBERTS, MORGAN & CO.

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Per "S. S. DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH."

Homœopathic Medicines, Phials, Corks, Pocket filters, clinical thermometers, other requisities &c. &c.

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Arrear Do.	15	8
RATES OF ADVERTISEMENT.	**Rs.**	**As**
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Printed and published by WOOMESH CHUNDER NUNDI, *at the* HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS, No 108, BARANUSSY GHOSE'S STREET, CALCUTTA.